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THE ERA

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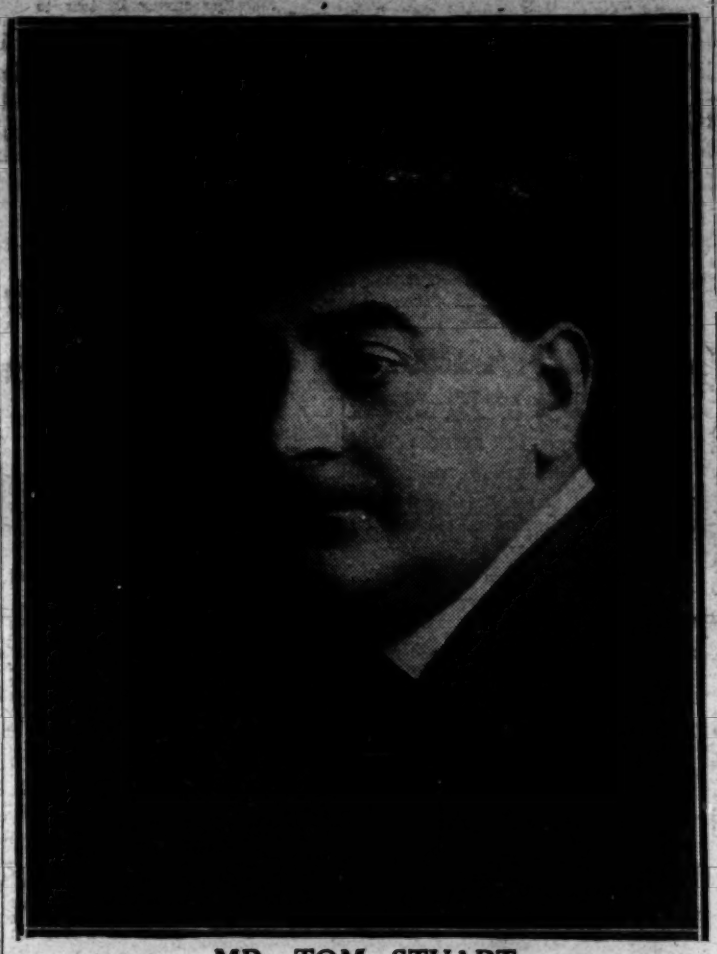

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Mr. Tom Stuart has been approached on many occasions recently, by important West End Managers, to make his re-appearance in the West End as his clever work in "Shell Out" at the Comedy, and in "Smile" at the Garrick, is still remembered. We understand, however, that Mr. Stuart has decided to remain in Variety at present, as he has just been secured by Sir Oswald Stoll and Mr. Charles Gulliver for the next three years. He will shortly produce an entirely new act.

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April 12th.

Ye Gods!

Wanted—April 5th, 12th, 26th.
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May 17, June 14, 21, 28, July 19, Aug. 9, 23, 30, Sept. 13, 20, Oct. 4, 11, 25, on.
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Vacant May 31 (?), Nov. 15 (?), Dec. 13 (?), Jan. 31 (?), Feb. 7 (?), 14 (?), 21 (?), 28 (?), March 7 (?), onwards.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH, vacant Aug. 2 (?), 23 (?), Dec. 5 (?), 13, Jan. 24, 31, Feb. 7, 14, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28 (?), onwards.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO', vacant first three nights of each week, June 21, 28, July 12, 19, 26, Aug. 2 (?), Sept. 6 (?), Oct. 11, Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29, onwards.
EMPIRE, WORCESTER (arrangements complete).
THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY (arrangements complete).
KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY (arrangements complete).
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY, autumn vacancies.
All other communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, Coleburst, Worcester.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, First-class Attractions for once or twice nightly for the Autumn.
Application re dates to HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, the Best Companies.
NEW PALACE THEATRE, RAWTENSTALL (Lancs.).
Gen. Man., W. Nicholls.
Population 40,000.
The Best Companies Required for Odd Vacancies.
Once Nightly. Twice Sat.
Co. Wanted, March 29, to follow "Maid of the Mountains," and April 19; May 10 and 17, between "Charley's Aunt" and Opera.
Mention if played Rawtenstall and if booked previously at Accrington, Bacup, or Blackburn and Bury.
NEW PALACE THEATRE, RADCLIFFE (Lancs).
Gen. Man., T., Rushton.
Population 35,000.
The Best Companies Required for Odd Vacancies.
Co. Wanted, Mar. 22, Apr. 12 May 3, 10, 17.
Co. Wanted, Mar. 22, Apr. 12, May 3, 10, 17.
Co. Wanted, Mar. 22, Apr. 12, May 3, 10, 17.
Co. Wanted, Mar. 22, Apr. 12, May 3, 10, 17.
Co. Wanted, Mar. 22, Apr. 12, May 3, 10, 17.
Co. Wanted, Mar. 22, Apr. 12, May 3, 10, 17.
A good show, March 22, to follow "Peg o' My Heart."
Once Nightly. Twice Sat.
Mention if played Radcliffe and if booked previously at Bury.
It is not in the interests of either Theatre or the Touring Managers if they cannot adequately fill out once nightly time.
For both theatres apply to Booking Manager For Above Companies Since Their Opening, with sharing terms, free of Commission.
MR. WILL DALTON,
57, Parsonage-rd., Withington, Manchester.
Wire, "Granbeste, Manchester."

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for Whit Week. Also a few dates July, August, and Sept.
SAMUEL THORNLEY, Manager.

WANTED, Companies for Drill Hall, Winsford, Ches.; holds 1,200; stage 50ft. by 19ft. deep; pros. front and footlights; no scenery or frame. Sharing terms.
Apply,
W. H. WILLIAMS,
Printer and Billposter, Winsford.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, Strong Attraction for March 29.
The only vacant date this year.
Apply, J. E. BULL.

WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies, with London reputation only, for big Yorkshire theatre.
Will give minimum guarantee to the right shows.
Please state if past or future bookings include Dewsbury or Batley.
Full details to
HORSFIELD'S AGENCY,
Suite 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.

NEW THEATRE, SALISBURY.
WANTED, West-End Attractions for June 7 and 14,
July 5,
Sept. 27,
Nov. 15 and 22,
Dec. 6, on.
Write full particulars to
ALBANY WARD,
Guildhall-chambers, Weymouth.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 24 (?).
O.H., BELFAST, June 7 (?), 21, 28, July 5.
O.H., CORK, May 31 (?), June 21, July 5.
G.T., SWANSEA, June 14.

Apply, THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES, 7 and 8, Leicester-pl., Leicester-sq., W.C. 2.

WANTED, sound attraction, April 19.
MANAGER,
Alexandra Theatre, Pontefract.

Knightstone Pavilion, Weston-super-Mare.
WANTED, First-class West-End Musical or Farcical Comedy Success. Whit Week.

Full particulars to W. PAYNE.
Silence a polite negative.

MARINA THEATRE, LOWESTOFT.

Run on No. 1 lines.
WANTED, first-class Musical Attraction for Easter week, April 5.
Share or certainty.

Also one or two later dates.
First-class Companies only entertained.
Address, R. PAREEZER, as above.

WANTED, Panto. or First-class Revue, Hipp., Lowestoft, March 15, &c., where money can be taken. Wires, letters, day bills, DIXON'S AGENCY, 169, Essex-rd., London, N.

THE PALACE PIER PAVILION, ST. LEONARDS.

The Prettiest Pavilion on South Coast.

WANTED, West End Attractions,
Comedies, Musical Plays, and Stars for Flying Visits

Vacancies May 4 and 5, 2 nights.
May 6, 7, and 8, 3 nights and matinée,
May 20, 21, and 22, 3 nights and matinée,
weeks, June 21, July 12, Aug. 23, 24, and 25, 3 nights and matinée, Aug. 30 week, Sept. 13, 20, 27, on.

Stage measurements: Pros.' opening, 26 ft., depth 20 ft., height 14 ft. 8 in.

4 Box Sets, Doors, Openings, &c.

All necessary Cloths, Wings, Borders, &c.

Fine Orchestra.

Wire immediately for all dates to

MANAGER.

COMPANIES WANTED.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.

WANTED, High-class Attractions.
D.P. THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
April 12, July 5, Oct. 11, 18, Nov. 8.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Easter, April 21 (4), Oct. 4, Nov. 15.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
March 11 (3), Nov. 15.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
May 3, June 28.
PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE.
May 3, June 14, 28, Aug. 16, Nov. 15.
Once nightly.
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool.

H. W. ROWLAND'S AGENCY,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent, 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
Once nightly.
(Three nights or full week.)
Proprietors,
Scala Theatre (Boston) Co., Ltd.
Man. Dir., G. Aspland Howden.
'Phone, 135 Boston.
This Theatre has the LARGEST SEATING CAPACITY IN THE DISTRICT. Beautifully furnished, good band and lighting. It has an advantage in possessing a large stage, 50ft. wide, 24ft. back, pros. opening 31ft., taking 18ft. flat, and capable of effectively producing any play. Five good dressing-rooms, and good admission prices. With the large holding capacity WE ARE PREPARED TO OFFER "TOP" SHARING TERMS, FREE OF COMMISSION, to KNOWN LONDON ATTRACTIONS AND CONCERNS.
All the Leading London Companies are coming to the New Theatre, and as to future visits to the town the following are same of our attractions: "Who's Hooper?" "Billeted," "Nurse Benson," "Milestones," "Romance," "Chinese Puzzle," "Arcadians," "Daddy Long-Legs," "Nothing But the Truth," "Man from Toronto," "The Naughty Wife," "My Lady Frayle," the late Laurence Irving's "Typhoon," "Freedom of the Seas."

WANTED, COMPANIES,
EARLY DATES.
Co. Wanted, March 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 22, 29, April 12.
Co. Wanted, March 22, 29, April 12.
Apply for Bookings to the Booking Manager For the Company (for 10 years).
MR. WILL DALTON,
57, Parsonage-rd.,
Withington, Manchester.
Wire, "Granbeste, Manchester."

W. S. Bentley, "My Lady Frayle" Co., writes:—"As to visit a week ago to the New Theatre: Yes, show liked very much. My only regret was we did not play full week, which would have been so beneficial to all." (Which returns.)

PALLADIUM, LITTLEHAMPTON.
WANTED, First-class Shows.
Season Dates.
Also March 18, various, on.
Also
HIPPODROME, SELSEY.
Wanted, Small Companies, March, on (1 or 2 nights), Easter, Whitsun, and Aug. Holidays. Good Season Dates, July to Sept.

Wanted, first-class Concert Parties, Season Dates, for
SELSEY GARDENS (alfresco).
All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, Portland Lodge, Littlehampton.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

"Monty's Flapper," "Ann."
WANTED, March 22, May 10, 17, 24.
HALDANE CRICHTON,
West Pier, Brighton.

LOUIS CALVERT in "DADDALUMS" and "YOU NEVER CAN TELL."

WANTED, July 5. Also Autumn.

Refer to any Theatre the Play has visited. Prior to London Production.
Communications, W. EDWARD STIRLING. This week, W. G., New Brighton; next week, O.H., Blackpool.

For the Great Success at the CRITERION THEATRE.
"OUR MR. HEPPLEWHITE."
WANTED, July 26, Aug. 26 (3), Oct. 4 and 18, Nov. 8, 18 (3), and 29.
Now booking 1921.
Apply, W. E. Holloway, 7, Ramillies-rd., Bedford Park, W. 11.

"A-LA-CARTE,"
"A-LA-CARTE,"
"A-LA-CARTE,"
"A-LA-CARTE,"
A Musical Burlesque in Four Scenes.
WANTED, Theatres,

Only vacancies:—
March 22 and 29, to precede Edinboro'.
March 22 and 29, to precede Edinboro'.
March 22 and 29, to precede Edinboro'.
Cast includes:—
Freddie Wolgast,
Dave O'Toole,
Bert Harland,
Alice Maude,
Dorothy Vaughan,
Anna Hastings,
The Eight Sunrays, and Full Company.

This is a Really No. 1 Attraction, already played Moss', Stoll, Variety Theatres Controlling, and L.T.V. Tours, and now Booked by Several Important Managements.

Produced by Billie Leonard, of Palace Theatre, London.
Special Plant of Printing, by David Allen and Alfred Cooke.
Communications,
ARTHUR ROYCE, LTD.,
St. Mary's-chambers,
161a, Strand, W.C. 2.

WALTER SALTOUN AND AIMEE GRATTAN-CLYNDES' COMPANIES.

"MARRIED SINNERS."

WANTED,
April 5 (precede P., Newcastle),
April 19 (follow Halifax),
April 26 (follow Met., Glasgow),
Aug. 9 (follow Luton),
Aug. 30 (follow Nottingham),
Sept. 6 (Scotland), and on.

WALTER SALTOUN,
33, Albany-road, Windsor.

"ARE YOU A MASON?"
From Comedy Theatre, London.
"THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY."
From Apollo Theatre, London.
WANTED, Dates. Apply, MR. WILLIAMS, 4, Featherstone-buildings, High Holborn.

THEATRES WANTED.

THE BRANDON THOMAS COMPANY IN "CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Entire West-End Production Carried.
Direct from the Garrick Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.

March 15 and 29.

May 17.

Wire, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

Mrs. Jessie Porter's Charming Comedy, "BETTY AT BAY."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,

March 22 (North).

April 12 (North).
Also Autumn dates.

Address, CECIL BARTH, 37, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

New Romantic Play,
"'NED' KEAN OF OLD DRURY."
By Arthur Shirley.
West-End Company, including
H. A. Saintsbury.
Produced at Princes Theatre, Manchester, with enormous success.

The "Manchester Guardian" says:—"It is a better play than 'David Garrick' or 'Nance Oldfield,' and last night it was well acted all round."
"The Daily Mail" says:—"It is questionable whether any new play in Manchester has received such tumults of applause as 'Ned' Kean of Old Drury' did last night at the Princes Theatre."

WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Autumn, 1920, and Spring, 1921.

Return bookings 1920 include King's T., Glasgow, Lyceum T., Edinburgh, T.R., Nottingham, &c.

Entire Production Carried.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

CHARLES HAWTREY'S FAMOUS FARCICAL COMEDY,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Entire West-End Production Carried.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.

July 12, 19,
Aug. 30, Sept. 6, 13, 20.
Oct. 4, Nov. 29.

Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

ROBERT COURTNEIDGE'S COMPANIES.

"The Man from Toronto"
Vacant March 15 (5 nights),
April 26 (week).

"The Law Divine,"
With H. V. Esmond.
Vacant April 5, May 3.

"Scandal,"
Vacant May 3, 17, and 24.

"The Bird of Paradise,"
Vacant May 10 and Autumn Dates.

"Daddies"
(Two Companies),
With Mr. Mollison Kidd.

"Sunshine of the World,"
Autumn dates.

"The Arcadians."
Autumn dates.

"Petticoat Fair."

"Too Many Girls."

"Paddy the Next Best Thing."
Autumn dates.

DOUGLAS MILLAR,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WALTER SALTOUN AND AIMEE GRATTAN-CLYNDES' COMPANIES.

"WHAT IS HOME WITHOUT A MOTHER?"

(Alternative title, "The Curse of Marriage.")

WANTED,
March 22 (precede Salisbury),
April 5 (precede Halifax),
May 17 (precede Luton),
July 5 (precede Bradford),
July 12 (follow Wednesbury),
Aug. 23 (follow Met., Glasgow),
Oct. 18, and on.

WALTER SALTOUN,
33, Albany-road, Windsor.

"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
"THE BONNIE BRIER BUSH."
This tour is proving the most successful of this wonderful play.
For business done this autumn refer to:—
Howard & Wyndham, Ltd., Edinburgh.
Arthur Jefferson, Glasgow.
A. J. & J. J. Wright, Greenock.
J. H. Savile, Perth, &c., &c.
Can be played once or twice nightly.
WANTED, Managers to send Vacant dates, Scotland or England.
DURWARD LELY, c/o Theatre, Perth.

WANTED, few dates, April and May, for the Ben Greet (I.C.C.) Shakespearean Players, to follow Crayford, Brighton, and T.R., Portsmouth. Letters, BEN GREET, 28, Red Lion-square, W.C. 1.

WANTED Known,
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD."
"MISS LANCASHIRE, LTD."
is still
AN EASY FIRST AS A DRAWING POWER.
at the
HIPPODROME, HUDDERSFIELD,
on our
FIFTEENTH VISIT
we played to
capacity business all the week, and had a larger gross than ever before. Refer St. Alban Newton, the manager thereof.
This, Alex., Pontefract.
Next, Hip., Nuneaton.
Wanted, April 5, 12, 26.

All coms.,
A. C. BRATTIE,
"Springfield," 3rd Avenue, Blackpool.

THEATRES WANTED.

TO MANAGERS AND PROPRIETORS.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST SENSATION.

A PROVED BOX OFFICE ATTRACTION.

The talk of every town yet played.

Just arrived from a World's Tour.

"THE GLOBE OF LIFE,"

Featuring Miss and Master Staig,

Australia's most Daring Riders,

In sensational feats of Looping the Giant Steel Globe on Motors.

Riders as dainty as they are daring, gorgeously costumed.

WANTED, Theatres, for this sensational "Headliner," with first-class company of artists, or will take over company on percentage.

A huge attraction for fêtes and galas.

Good printing, and an Act that will stand a good booming and make good.

Arrived from South Africa after a most successful season with the African Theatres Trust end of December last, opened Olympia, Shoreditch, Jan. 5, worked continuously ever since.

Last week bottom of bill, Palace, Manchester, following Miss Ethel Levy, Lupino Lane, Scott and Whatley, and others.

Closed the show and held the vast audiences at every performance.

Thanks to the many agents offering to book my act for the Continent, also Mr. Leonard Parish, Cirque Parish, Madrid, for personal offer two months in Spain. Bookings in England prevented my accepting. Only a few vacancies this year.

All communications to

P. STAIG,

2, Minden-road, Anerley, London, S.E.

WALTER SALTOUN AND AIMEE GRATTAN-CLYNDES' COMPANIES.

"SOILED!"

WANTED,

March 15,

April 5 (follow Wigan),

April 26 (precede Bootle),

May 17 (follow Leicester),

June 21 (follow Barnsley),

July 5 (follow Jarrow),

Aug. 2 (precede Edinburgh), and various Autumn.

WALTER SALTOUN,
33, Albany-road, Windsor.

HAROLD V. NEILSON presents
SIR FRANK BENSON
and the famous Benson Shakespearean Company, in
New and Special Productions of
"THE MERCHANT OF VENICE,"
"HAMLET,"
"THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR,"
"THE TAMING OF THE SHREW,"
"TWELFTH NIGHT,"
"JULIUS CÆSAR."

Just concluded a special season of six weeks at the New Queen's Theatre, Manchester. Rebooked by John Hart, Esq., for a further season of eight weeks, autumn, 1920.

Gross receipts.

"Hamlet" (one week)	£1,056 11 5
"The Taming of the Shrew" (one week)	£893 17 11
"Julius Cæsar" (four days)	£824 8 6

Last week, Feb. 16, at Theatre Royal, Plymouth,
£1,228 6s. 7d.
£1,228 6s. 7d.
£1,228 6s. 7d.
Refer J. M. Glover.

WANTED, April 19, April 19, April 19,
April 19.
April 19.
April 19.
April 19.
HAROLD V. NEILSON,
Opera House, Northampton.

"THE GIRL IN THE TAXI."

The Famous Musical Comedy from the Lyric Theatre, London.
Once or Twice Nightly.

One of the Biggest Attractions on tour.

WANTED Known,
only Vacancy this Spring,
April 5 (precede Watford).
Autumn Vacancies,
Aug. 16, Oct. 25, and Christmas.
Apply, HUBERT WOODWARD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

"SALLY IN SOCIETY."
"SALLY IN SOCIETY."
A FARCE WITH MUSIC IN 3 ACTS.

WANTED, March 22 and April 5.
This is the best paying proposition touring. It never fails.
Booked and rebooked by Percy B. Broadhead, Esq., E. H. Page, Esq., W. C. Horner, Esq., Otto C. Culling, Esq., Will Sley, Esq., H. Robinson, Esq (Pontefract), J. F. Elliston, Esq., Hugh Robertson, Esq., &c, &c.
Refer J. F. Elliston, Bolton.
All coms., A. C. BEATTIE,
"Springfield," 3rd Avenue, Blackpool.
Wires, "Giggler, Blackpool."

WANTED KNOWN,

"BINDLE'S LUCK."

The Revuesical Musical Comedy.

Few vacant dates from April on.

All coms. to Business Manager,
JOSEPH T. POOLE,
388, St. John-street, London, E.C. 2.

OSMOND & PALFREYMAN'S
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."
"CINDERELLA."

WANTED, good Theatre,
April 5.
April 5.
April 5.
Through obliging A. J. Withers, Esq. Wire or write, OSMOND, Palladium, Aberdare.

J. FORBES KNOWLES' CO.
Standard Plays.

WANTED, Theatres,
April 5, onwards,
also one for Repertoire,
15, Richmondhill-rd., Aberdeen.

THEATRES WANTED.

FREDERICK G. LLOYD'S COMPANIES.

Enormous Success of
New Romantic Comic Opera,
"ROSE OF ARABY."
"ROSE OF ARABY."
"ROSE OF ARABY."

WANTED,
First-class Theatres only,

July 26 1920 (North),
July 26, 1920 (North),
Aug. 16 (South),
Aug. 16 (South),
Sept. 6,
Sept. 6,
Nov. 22,
Nov. 22
Dec. 20, and onwards.
Dec. 20, and onwards.

COMIC OPERA REPERTORY CO.
"LA CIGALE."
"LA CIGALE."
"DOROTHY."
"DOROTHY."
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."
"LES CLOCHES DE CORNEVILLE."

May 3 (South),
May 3 (South),
Sept. 27 (North),
Sept. 27 (North),
Nov. 29 (Midlands),
Nov. 29 (Midlands),
Dec. 20,
Dec. 20
onwards, with exceptions.
onwards, with exceptions.

"COUNTRY GIRL."
"COUNTRY GIRL."
March 8 (South),
March 8 (South),
Sept. 20 (South),
Sept. 20 (South),
Oct. 18 (South),
Oct. 18 (South),
Dec. 20, onwards.
Dec. 20, onwards.

"TAILS UP."
"TAILS UP."
April 12,
April 12
July 19 (North),
July 19 (North),
Aug. 2 (North),
Aug. 2 (North),
Aug. 16 (North),
Aug. 16 (North),
Sept. 13 (South),
Sept. 13 (South),
Oct. 4 (South),
Oct. 4 (South),
Nov. 15 (North),
Nov. 15 (North),
Nov. 22 (North),
Nov. 22 (North).

"LA POUPEE."
"LA POUPEE."
Sept. 13 (South),
Sept. 13 (South),
Nov. 22 (North),
Nov. 22 (North),
Dec. 6 (North),
Dec. 6 (North),
Dec. 27, onwards.
Dec. 27 onwards.

"CHINESE HONEYMOON."
"CHINESE HONEYMOON."
March 8
March 8
(through transferring),
(through transferring),
May 10, 17, and 24,
May 10, 17, and 24,
Nov. 1.
Nov. 1.

All communications,
FREDERICK G. LLOYD,
37, Birch-grove, Acton, W. 3.

ALFRED DENVILLE'S STUPENDOUS SPECTACULAR MUSICAL PLAY,

"THE WANDERING JEWESS."
"THE WANDERING JEWESS."

FULL CHORUS AND BALLET.
And Company of over 30 people.

Conductor, Leslie Russell.
Musical Director, F. S. Gilbert.

Wonderful Scenery, by Harker and Richardson.

Wardrobe and Armour by Clarkson.

Large Plant of Pictorials, new.

Clear Stage required.

Bookings and pencillings:—Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Southampton, Gloucester, Merthyr, Burnley, Portsmouth, Rochdale, Halifax, Bolton (return), Oldham (return), Blackburn, Huddersfield, Bury, Chatham, &c.

"THE WANDERING JEWESS."
"THE WANDERING JEWESS."

WANTED,
April 5,
April 5,
April 19,
April 19,
various, on.

How's this?
"Dear Denville,—I think so much of your show I'm giving you your pick of autumn dates.—J. F. Elliston, T.R., Bolton."

Wire or write,
ALFRED DENVILLE,
Marlboro' House, Oldham.
'Phone 1355.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres and Music Halls only.
Once or Twice Nightly.

"BUZZ BUZZ."
April 12, May 10.
"BUBBLY."
March 29, April 26 (precede Cork).
"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S."
April 5, May 10 and 31.
"HOBSON'S CHOICE."
April 5, 12, 19, 26, May 24, 31, June 7.

Wire or write,
W. FOSTER HORSFIELD,
Suite 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
Telephone: Regent 208.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres and Music Halls only.
Once or Twice Nightly.

"BUBBLY."
The Successful Musical Production from the Comedy Theatre, London.
Entirely new production and entirely redressed.
Vacant March 29 (?), April 26 (to precede Cork).
Also good Summer and Autumn Dates.

W. FOSTER HORSFIELD,
Suite 17-18, 26, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.
Telephone: Regent 208.

MUSIC — THIS WEEK'S NOVELTIES. — PIENA

Use "Mauriena" Covers, they double the life of your Music and bind it at the same time.

RECOMMENDED AND PRAISED BY ALL DIRECTORS OF MUSIC OF EUROPE.
Write for Samples.

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED OUR LATEST NOVELTY LIST are requested to write, and a complete Catalogue will be sent post free by return.

55. HIGH STREET, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C. 2 55.
(Opposite Tottenham Court Road).

PIENA 'Phone: Gerrard 7236. 'Grams: "Immauriena, 'Phone, London." MUSIC

THEATRES WANTED.

"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."
"A MESSAGE FROM MARS."

WANTED, March 22, vacant through transfer.

"WITHIN THE LAW."
"WITHIN THE LAW."

"The Speckled Band."
"Wild Heather."
April 12 and 19.

Wire or write,

HUBERT WOODWARD,

102, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 2.

MRS. KIMBERLEY and FRANK LISTON'S CO. in
"TATTERS."
"TATTERS."
"TATTERS."
Written by Mrs. Kimberley.

WANTED, March 22, March 22, April 5, April 5.

Can be seen this week at Victoria Theatre, Burnley, and Palace Theatre, Bordesley (latter a return within seven months).

Wires, "Drama, Brighton."
Letters, Grand Theatre, Brighton.

THE BEN GREET PLAYERS.
Repertory of Fifteen Plays. Twelve of Shakespeare's. Conclude March 27, fourth season in London and suburbs for the L.C.C. schools (over 200 performances).

WANTED Dates till June.
As the present series of daily performances are mostly private, Managers wishing to see them can do so by applying by letter to BEN GREET, 28, Red Lion-square, W.C. 1.
N.B.—Public performances at Chiswick Empire, Wood Green, Bethnal Green, and other places to capacity.

WANTED, Theatres, March 15, 22, and April, for Dramatic Attractions. Thanks to Mr. Francis Laidler for contracts for Leeds and Bradford. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 11.

LIONEL RIGNOLD and CHAS. MACDONA'S "DIPLOMACY." No. 1 Company.
WANTED, April 12, 19, 26, June 14, on, with exceptions.
Under the direction and personal management of
FRED EUSTACE,
39a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, for long summer and autumn tour, "Are You a Mason?" Lady, for good part. Also Robust Comedian and useful people. Salary and particulars, WILLIAMS, 4, Featherstone-buildings, High Holborn.

WANTED, for a high-class Musical Act, a really fine Soprano Vocalist; must be young, ladylike, and experienced, with fine stage presence. Send photo. (returnable), age, experience, and terms to Box 456, "The Era."

WANTED, for Film Productions, first-class Leading Lady and Gent.; must have big experience. Also Ladies and Gentlemen for small parts, and supernumerary work. Full particulars, by letter only, NORTHCOTE PRODUCTIONS, c/o British Cinema Agency (Sole Agents), 1, Adelaide-street, Charing Cross, W.C. 2. Interviews by appointment ONLY.

WANTED, Petite Actress for 42 weeks' tour; first-class, ability, and charm essential; to look 20. Photo. and terms to DOUGLASS, Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRISTOL.
Stock Season.

WANTED, First-class Leading Gent., must have personality. Also Juvenile Lady, good Heavy Lady, and Smart Chambermaid. Must be refined and used to Stock. Rehearse March 8; open on the 15th. Send photos., stating age and lowest terms for long engagement, to HAMILTON BAINES, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

"FLUFF AND FEATHERS."
The Very Latest.

WANTED, Smart Gentleman for Juvenile Lead, must have good voice. Also good Principal Comedian, Eccentric Comedian and good Dude, young Lady for Light Juvenile Lead, Smart Soubrette, Light Comedienne, and Smart, Tall, Refined Chorus Girls. Send photos., stating age, lowest terms, and refs., to HAMILTON BAINES, Theatre Royal, Bristol.

WANTED, clever Children Dancers for London. Call, any time, Wednesday, or 12 o'clock, Thursday, SIDNEY JAY, 205, Oxford-street, W. 1. 'Phone: Museum 4329.

WANTED Known, Dancing Instructor (male), free after April 1; well up in ballroom and stage dancing; eccent., Soft Toe, and National; could take charge of dance room.
Apply, Box 467, "The Era."

DE WOLFE'S

MUSIC PUBLISHERS.

Ouvertures. Salon Orchestras, including P.C. and Organ parts.

Rosamunde	Schubert	2/-
Caliph of Bagdad	Boieldieu	2/-
Elverhoi	Kuhlau	2/6
Norma	Bellini	2/6
Martha	Flotow	2/-
Lohengrin	Wagner	2/6
Tika	Doppler	2/6
Orpheus	Offenbach	2/-
If I were King	Adam	2/-
Legend of St. Elizabeth	Liszt	2/6

Opera Selections, Ballets, etc., Salon Orch., including P.C. and Organ parts.

Lohengrin	Wagner	5/-
Meistersinger	Wagner	5/-
Tannhäuser	Wagner	5/-
Damnation de Faust	Berlioz	5/-
Finale—"Undine"	Lortzing	4/-
Ballet Music—"Undine"		4/-
Lazarett Scene from "The Betrothed"	Ponchielli	4/-
Selections from Famous Songs by F. Abt	Lubbe	4/-
Uyra Czardas	Original Themes	3/-

MISCELLANEOUS.

Brise de Mer—Impromptu	Leoncavallo	3/-
The Bees' Wedding	Mendelssohn	1/8
Berceuse	Translateur	1/8
Andante Cantabile—Symphony No. 1	Beethoven	1/8
Cavatina	Raff	1/8
Improvisation on a theme by Richard Wagner	Lubbe	2/6
Invitation à la Valse	Weber	2/6
Traumerei und Abendlied	Schumann	2/-
Berceuse Tendre	Sour	1/8

Salon Orch. consists of 1st Violin, Violin obbligato, 'Cello and Bass, Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, and Drums. Two 1st Violin parts are included in all the above.

DE WOLFE'S, 157 WARDOUR STREET, W.1.
'Phone—Gerrard 3823. Cables—Zercowol, Ox, London.

C. A. STEPHENSON'S
No. 1 Company of the Successful Musical Comedy, by arrangement with C. B. Cochran and E. L. Waller,
"CARMINETTA,"
from the Garrick, Prince's, and Prince of Wales Theatres.

WANTED, July 28, Aug. 2, 23, Sept. 6, 13, Oct. 4, onwards, with exceptions. This is a No. 1 production in every way.
This, C. A. Stephenson, 53, Chandos-street, W.C. Next, Hippodrome, Richmond.

MRS. KIMBERLEY'S REVUE,

"EASTERN NIGHTS."
"EASTERN NIGHTS."
"EASTERN NIGHTS."
"EASTERN NIGHTS."
"EASTERN NIGHTS."
"EASTERN NIGHTS."

This Revue beat all records at T.R., Wolverhampton, last week.

WANTED, March 22, March 22.

Wire, "Drama, Brighton."

CHARLES MACDONA'S CO.
WANTED, Dates for
"PYGMALION." No. 1 Co.
Now being revived at the Aldwych Theatre.
May 31, and on, with exceptions.

"HOME AND BEAUTY." No. 1 Co.
Aug. 2, Sept. 27, Oct. 4.

"THE CHINESE PUZZLE."
March 8.
29a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

HORACE HODGES,
in
"GRUMPY."

Sixth year of tour.

WANTED, March 15 (3 nights), precede Buxton, April 12, 26 (3), May 3, 17, 24, and Autumn.

WALTER D. NICOLL,

This week, New T., Salisbury.

Next, Barnstaple (3).

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Boys and Girls, Child Dancers; rehearse immediately; call 12 to 1. VILLIERS, 13, George-st., Hanover-sq., W. 1.

WANTED, Concert Party Artist, able to play his own accompaniment and assist at piano; can join next week; near London. Full pars. to CARR, Palace, Salisbury.

CONCERT PARTIES, Alfresco, good class.

WANTED, for coming season, Saturday evenings, Summerland Gardens. Apply, MANAGER, Electric Theatre, Muswell Hill.

WANTED, Tenor Chorister. Apply, with song, 2.30 till 3 to-day or to-morrow, STEPHENSON, 3rd floor, No. 16, Gt. Newport-street, W.C.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED, by DOROTHY LAURIE, 2nd Girl and Prin. Dancer, "Babes" Co. Vac. March 8. Revue or No. 1 C.P.

2, Caversham-rd., Kentish Town, N.W. 5.

WANTED Known, PAT MURPHY, The Smallest Giant on Earth, Dis. Monday for com in Revue or Sketch. Wire, Empire, Middlesbrough.

WANTED, Engt. by Entertainer and Humorist; experienced; expenses; not concert party. Letters, C., 57, Talma-road, S.W. 2.

WANTED, Managers and Proprietors requiring Artists, write, UNIQUE VAUDEVILLE AGENCY, 58, Cambria-road, S.E. 5.

WANTED Known, Dancer (male, 22), Eccentric and Soft Toe, Producer, sing, Vacant for C.P. or other company, any time after April 1. Box 466, "The Era."

WANTED, Concert Engagements in London during week commencing March 29, by the ROYAL "VIONA" QUARTETTE, Banjoists. Wire, this week, Palace, Chepstow; next week, Palace, Abercynon.

CINEMA EMPLOYMENT.

WANTED, experienced Cinema Operator; must understand National Gas Engine and Electrical Plant thoroughly. Also Pianist wanted. This would suit a man and wife. Both must know the business and not afraid of work; open at once. All particulars, first letter, CODONA, New Picture House, Tranent, near Edinburgh.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants. Splendid opportunity start professionally. (Stamp). Call, afternoons, Mr. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-road, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Ladies, Gentlemen Beginners. Songs, Sketches everything necessary supplied; thorough tuition; start direct when ready. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Amateur Gent. (London), join young lady just starting double turn; fine chance enter profession. D'ALBERT, above address.

WANTED, Amateur Gentleman, suitable for dancing act, to practise with lady artist in London. Address, DANSEUSE, c/o 1a, Powis-terrace, Bayswater, W. 11.

WANTED, FILM ACTING.—My private, personal system teaches thoroughly. My Postal Lessons are the best. To be a Cinema Star, consult Mc. SCREEN PLAYS. New writers urgently wanted. The art taught in few postal lessons. Pupils prepared for Theatres, Music Halls, &c. Recommended by Miss Kate Carney, Reg. Wentworth, Albert Whelan, and other stars. Stage Guide, 1s. Write (stamp reply), HERBERT COLE, 39, Burton-road, Brixton, S.W. 9.

WANTED, Pupils, refined, to prepare for Concert Platform, under experienced tutor and manager; good opportunity for those with talent. Box 464, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, smart Single Man, who has had experience both as Operator and as Manager, for position as working Manager at small suburban kinema; first-class references essential. State age, experience, and salary. Box 460, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Wardrobe Mistress for tour, capable of handling big productions. HARRIS, Cranbourn-mansions, Cranbourn-street, W.C.

WANTED, Machinist and Needle Hands.
1, Stangate-chambers, Stangate-street, Lambeth Palace-road.

WANTED, immediately, Producer, Amateur Society, "Cloches de Corneville," first week May.

Apply, stating terms, L. WRIGHT, 40, St. Mary's-grove, Chiswick, W. 4.

WANTED, at once, to join smart Assistant for Oriental Illusionist; must understand mechanism; willing and reliable only need apply with full pars., age, height, sal. for perm. job, &c., to LINGA-SINGH, Pal., Huddersfield. Next, Pav., Ayr.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Young Man to travel with advance agent for a well-known road show; good wages and good bonus to suitable man, who knows his place and work; sobriety and civility essential, and to make himself generally useful. Send refs., height, age, and weight, to MR. NEWCOME, Agent, c/o Billposting Co., 20, Union-st., Merthyr Tydfil. Fare paid after joining. Perm. sit. to suitable man.

WANTED, reliable Advance Agent, for touring, 1920. Terms and particulars in first letter to J. BIDDALL, The Circus, Annan.

WANTED, a few reliable and trustworthy Girls for stalls in seaside resorts; also travelling stalls, season 1920. Particulars to PRINCE SAMOUDA, Post Office, Plymouth.

WANTED, reliable Man, used to show business. Also Two Smart Lads, season 1920. Particulars to PRINCE SAMOUDA, Post Office, Plymouth.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Leete's hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue. A. LEETE & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED Known,
ALFRED WHYATT & SON,
Scenic Contractors,
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.
Contracts solicited.
First-class work guaranteed.

WANTED Known, Entertainments Manager, Municipal, or other appointment sought by thoroughly experienced Manager of high-class concerts and entertainments; well acquainted with and able to directly book the leading Bands, Orchestras, and Artists; exceptional municipal references; age 40. Box 470, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Mrs. SETON, Wardrobe Mistress, open for engagement, high-class company. Send offers to AGENT, 2, Waverley-road, Southsea.

WANTED Known, Typing, Duplicating, and MS. work by return; lowest rates; satisfaction guaranteed. TYPIST, 15, Meynell-rd., E. 9.

WANTED Known, Chauffeur will Drive, Clean, and Garage your car for £4 a week. 2, Albion-mews, High-street, South Norwood, S.E.

WANTED Known, Translations, French, Spanish, German, Typewriting; prompt books, accurately and promptly undertaken. MISS MUMM, 26, Wharton-street, W.C. 1.

WANTED Known, will any esteemed friend possessing a copy of a pamphlet entitled "A Few Opinions of the Press" kindly oblige JOHN HASTINGS BATSON by letting him have it? Important. A.A., 32, Regent-street.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, brilliant Piano-Conductor, also a Leader, both for provinces. Call, between 10.30 and 1 o'clock, WILSON-DIBBLE AGENCY, 13, Duke-street, St. James's, W. 1.

WANTED, good Violinist, Rep.; male preferred; audition to-day (Wednesday), 12 till 1; no Sundays. Apollo Cinema, 117, Stoke Newington-rd., N., MUS. DIR. 'Phone Finchley 1782.

WANTED, Leader-Violin, Pianist and Mustel Organist for Midlands; must be first-class players.
Also Violin, 'Cello, and Pianist write in for London.
Also first-class Gentleman Relief Pianist for London.
MADAME MAY WALTER,
3, Macclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

WANTED, Leader, to deputise Friday evening next, West-End Café. ZELBA, 67, Newman-street, W. 1.

WANTED, good Leader-Violin; competent and able to fit to Pictures; open Monday next. MANAGER, King's Palace Wimbledon, S.W.

WANTED, Lady Violiniste-Leader and Repetiteur, for S.E. Coast hotel, Easter (2 weeks); live in and good terms. Particulars to THEMA WRAMCH-WALLER, 17, Sydney House, Bedford Park.

WANTED Trio (Ladies), Tea-rooms, North-East Coast; hours, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.; no Sundays; dances paid extra. State full particulars and quote absolute lowest terms, Box 483, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Friday Next,
Experienced Leader,
for First-class Cinema.
Address, Box 491, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, for Pictures, Repetiteur (lady or gent.); comfortable engagement; evenings only, no Sundays; read at sight and good-toned instrument absolutely essential. Send lowest terms and references to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Royal Theatre, Rushden, Northants.

WANTED Known,
MAURICE PIENA has first-class Vacancies for Leaders, Pianists, 'Cellists, Mustel Organists, and other instrumentalists. Also vacancies for lady and gentlemen instrumentalists for Easter and summer; seaside. Call, 55, High-street, New Oxford-street, W.C. 2, or 'phone Gerrard 7236.

WANTED, Violin (Leader), Hippo., Gt. Yarmouth; open March 8; Var. and Pic.; A.M.U. Apply, J. C. EVERARD, 125a, King-st., Gt. Yarmouth.

JOHN H. RUSSELL AND HIS BAND.

WANTED, the following Instrumentalists, to complete band, for 20 weeks' season, commencing Whit Sunday, May 23, at
GRAND PIER PAVILION,
WESTON-SUPER-MARE.
Leader, First Violin, Viola, 'Cello, Double Bass, Flute, Clarinet, First and Second Cornets, Trombone, Drummer (with tympani and full effects), and first-class Orchestral Pianist. Railway fares paid to Weston. Three times daily and twice Sunday. Evening on week-days very light duties.
Only good players need apply.
Comfortable engagement, and more to follow to satisfactory musicians.
Apply, with terms,
JOHN H. RUSSELL, Musical Director,
Grand Theatre, Birmingham.

"Seamore," New City-road, Glasgow.
WANTED, good Leader; variety and pictures; 7½ hours daily. Also Trombone, evenings only; A.M.U. terms. Apply, HANDEL LANCASTER, M.D.

WANTED, Leader and 'Celliste for first-class hotel quartette; permanent engagement; to start end of March; South; good players and good appearance essential. Box 454, "The Era."

PALACE, DONCASTER.
WANTED, First-class Leader for Variety.
Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

WANTED, a first-class VIOLINIST LEADER, to open Monday next, Twice Nightly Show.
Must be thoroughly experienced in standard works.
Send full particulars in first letter, A.M.U. only.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR,
King's Theatre, Sunderland.

HIPPODROME, REIGATE, SURREY.
WANTED, for the above,
First Violin, lady or gent.
Pictures only.
Apply, H. BANCROFT (as above).

WANTED, First-class Leader, exp. Var.; capable of conducting band of 20 when required; terms, £4; A.M.U. J. WHITELOCK, Argyle T., Birkenhead.

WANTED, 2 Leaders, 1 Variety, 1 Pictures, commence March 8; experienced men only. TOM STEVENS, Palace Theatre, Grimsby.

WANTED, at once, a good 1st Violinist, able to take leader when required; also good Rep. Violinist, capable of Tavan's arrangements; high-class music only played; comfy shop for musicians; others save stamps; hours 3 to 5, 6.30 to 10. State terms and experience in cinema work, and full particulars to M. D., 40, Harmer-st., Gravesend.

WANTED, to open Mon. next, March 8, good Violin (Leader), for small orchestra; Pictures and Varieties; must be experienced and brilliant. Terms, age, exp., and refs. to MADDOX, Garrick Theatre, Hereford.

WANTED, for Provincial Cinema, 1st Violin, Repetiteur, D. Bass, Organist, Pianist. Call, WILSON DIBBLE AGENCY, 13, Duke-st., St. James's, W. 1.

WANTED, first-class Lady Violiniste and Viola, for West-End café. Apply, GRAY, 12, Archer-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

WANTED, capable Violiniste. Apply personally. MANAGER, Academy Cinema (opposite East Ham Station).

WANTED, Violinist for Light Infantry Band, on home service. Particulars, Box 447, "The Era."

WANTED, Violinist, for trio; soloist; 6 evenings; good tone essential. Apply, 11-1, with instrument, 1, Fitzroy-road, Regent's Park, N.W.

WANTED, two Violinists for Cinema (gentlemen).
Letters only, M. D.,
28, Plympton-road, Brondesbury, N.W. 6.

WANTED, first-class Violinist and 'Cellist; A.M.U.; evenings only; no Sundays. State terms first letter to Premier Picture Palace, Grimsby.

WANTED, Second Violin, immediately. Apply, after 6, Arcadia Cinema, Wood-street, Walthamstow.

WANTER for the Band of the Birmingham City Police Band, good Cornet, Trumpet, French Horn, and Flute players. Age up to 30; height not less than 5ft. 8in. Apply to the CHIEF CONSTABLE (Band), Birmingham.

Broncho Bill's Show.
WANTED, First Cornet, Trombone and Euphonium. Terms £3 5s. per week and a bonus. Open Midlands. Apply, MATT. CORBETT, 53, North-road, Brighton.

WANTED, for Tenting, good Euphonium and Tenor Horn, through disappointment; terms £3 5s. per week and bonus. Apply, D. TAYLOR, Circus Depôt, Portland-street, Worcester.

WANTED, good Clarinet, also Pianist; twice nightly Variety; open March 15; apply, terms, refs., MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Palace Theatre, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

WANTED, for Weymouth summer season, June to Sept., Clarinet, Trombone, combine Euphonium, Bassoon; high pitch used; must be able to play standard works or useless. State terms to CLAUDE FENN-LEYLAND, 140, Hatherton-street, Walsall, Staffs.

WANTED, Double Bass for high-class Cinema; roughly 4½ hours daily; no Sundays; open immediately. Apply, REYNOLDS, New Electric Theatre, Dorking.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Grand Theatre, Llandudno, April 1 to 7 (5 nights), Trombone, Drums. State age, musical comedy exp., lowest terms, refs., SHEPHARD, 88, Pershore-rd., Birmingham.

WANTED, Trombone, theatre South Coast town; permanent. Box 469, "The Era."

WANTED, good Trombonist, for Varieties and Pic., to open Mon. next; perm. to right man; A.M.U. Apply, W. L. ROEDER, M.D., Pavilion, Barnsley.

WANTED, 'Cellist for Finsbury Park, evenings only. Lowest terms to MANAGER, Box 489, "The Era."

WANTED, Lady 'Celliste, for hotel orchestra, Southport, for one week, from April 2; all food provided. State terms to N. P., c/o Clegg's, Wantage, Berks.

WANTED, 'CELLIST and PIANIST for CINEMA, LEEDS, APRIL 5 (approx.). Good salary to really capable performers. Twice daily; comf. engt.; perm.; aft. off weekly. ONLY FIRST-CLASS ARTISTS WRITE. Full pars., age, exp., sal. reqd., &c., to PHILLIP JACOBS, Mus. Dir., 38, Wassand-street, Hull.

WANTED, efficient, experienced Orchestra of 4 or 5, for Picture House, Regent-street, Weston-super-Mare. Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist for Cinema in Greenock; 26 hours weekly; £3 16s. 6d. per week. Apply to ERNEST CROOKE, 6a, South-street, Greenock, N.B.

WANTED, 'Cellist (gentleman) for S.E. district; cinema. Apply, "Elmwood," Atkins-rd., Clapham Park. 'Phone, Streatham 950.

WANTED, at once, Piccolo and Flautist (lady preferred), to join well-known musical act. Reply to CLOCHES, Palace Theatre, Redcar, Yorks.

THEATRE ROYAL and EMPIRE, PETERBORO'.

WANTED, to open on Monday next, good Pianist, by J. A. CAMPBELL, Theatre Royal and Empire, Grantham.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianiste (experienced); one who can play organ preferred. Apply, mornings only, or write, CONDUCTRESS, 144, Reveistoke-road, Southfields, S.W. 18.

WANTED immediately, Pianist-Organist (gent.), cinema, Margate; permanency; good salary. Wire or write, M. D., 79, Trinity-square, Margate.

WANTED, Organist for afternoons and evenings, commence Monday next, TRAFALGAR CINEMA, Trafalgar-rd., Greenwich.

WANTED, first-class Pipe Organist; must be experienced; evenings only. MUS. DIR., Fulham Grand Theatre, S.W.

WANTED, a good Pianist-Organist (two manual pipe); must be good man, to play with violinist; pictures only. Send full particulars as to refs., age, and salary (7 nights weekly, no matinées), to FRED BOULTON, Palace, Bordon, Hants.

WANTED, capable Orchestral Pianiste. Apply personally, MANAGER, Academy Cinema (opposite East Ham Station).

WANTED, capable Relief Pianiste. Apply, personally, MANAGER, Academy Cinema (opposite East Ham Station).

WANTED, Organist-Pianist, for cinema. Apply to M. D., any afternoon after 3.10, at Forest Lane Cinema, Forest Gate, E.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist (lady or gentleman), cinema; 1 hour from London. Evening's audition, Wednesday, 12-4. 72, St. George's-road, S.E.

WANTED, Relief Pianist for afternoons, Finsbury Park. Lowest terms to MANAGER, Box 490, "The Era."

PAVILION, TORQUAY.

WANTED, Pianist (first-class), for small Orchestra, to play in the Pavilion and Café; must be thoroughly experienced and good accompanist, able to play another instrument when visiting company bring their own pianist; high-class music played, library found; about 6 hours daily when full week, some weeks 2½ hours daily only. Send full particulars and terms, photo., references, and qualifications, to CHARLES G. PRICE, General Manager.

WANTED, Relief Pianist, good, for Stratford district. Also Organist-Pianist and Drummer for S.E. district. Apply, M. D., 22, Varley-road, Stamford-hill, N. 15.

WANTED, Pianist (Gentleman), for Café, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.; West-End experience in Tavan and Alder; really first-class amateur desiring experience considered. State lowest terms. Box 481, "The Era."

WANTED, for joint engagement at People's Palace, Forster-road, Tottenham, first-class Pianist and Violinist; about 4½ hours playing nightly. References and lowest terms for small cinema, MURRAY, 32, North-villas, Camden-sq., N.W.

WANTED, for cinemas, at once, the following:—Leaders. Pianists, Pipe Organists, 'Cellos, Bass, and Relief Pianists. Call, between 10.30 and 1 o'clock, WILSON-DIBBLE AGENCY, 15, Duke-street, St. James's, W. 1.

WANTED, for first-class hotel, Pianist, Violinist, Rep., 'Cellist, Double Bass; permanency; must be excellent players; thoroughly experienced; gentlemen only. Box 448, "The Era."

IMPERIAL PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

WANTED, to open March 15, Relief Pianist, lady or gent. Please state age, experience, and terms to W. J. ANDREWS, General Manager, The Walsall Theatres Co. Ltd.

Lyceum Theatre, Glasgow.

WANTED, for the above music hall, first-class Pianist; terms £3 10s. Apply, stating age and references, to J. CARTMELL, Musical Director.

KINGSTON EMPIRE.

WANTED, first-class Harpist (orchestral). Apply, with terms and latest references to C. SOUNES.

WANTED for Pitching, Harpist or Portable Player, join 'Cello Player. Write, Box 468, "The Era."

WANTED, a first-class Lady Harpiste, to comb. Piano; also Lady Pianiste; must be good, experienced musicians; for well-known Musical Act. Photo and full particulars to Box 479, "The Era."

WANTED, exp. Double Drummer, for Cinema, evenings only; must be exp. in Pictures. Apply, 123, Sandringham-rd., Dalston, N.E.

WANTED, first-class Trio, for new Cinema in Midlands, opening in March or April, complete, or individual musicians. Apply, with terms, age, and references, Box 480, "The Era."

WANTED at once, for London Cinema, Lady or Gentleman Drummer, and Relief Pianist able to play Harmonium. Box 478, "The Era."

MUSICIANS WANTED.

Aberystwyth Municipal Orchestra.

WANTED, good Instrumentalists (Ladies or Gentlemen), May 22 to Oct. 1; twice daily (6 days). Testimonials, age, lowest terms, J. H. ROWE, Mus. Dir.

WANTED, Orchestral Instrumentalists; seaside, East Coast, May 22 (4 months); 24½ hours weekly. Age, refs., and lowest (letters only), BAND, 27, The Dale, Woodseats, Sheffield.

WANTED, good Amateur Jazz Musicians or small Band; also String Bass. W. F. HURNDALL, King's Hall, London-road. Tel., 1022, Brixton.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted.
Jazz Band, for South Coast Café, or individual musicians. State lowest terms for six days per week of 27 hours. Box 482, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians, all instruments, for hotels, cafés, and cinemas in town and country. ZELBA, 67, Newman-street, London.

BANDMASTER J. GUY and HIS BANDS.
WANTED, a complete Military Band for Silvester's Great Tour, to commence on or about the 19th of April. It will be a long one. Men with high-class Circus experience would be an advantage. They will be expected to do concert programmes also. Write, with fullest particulars and stamped addressed envelope in first instance, to 3, Deynsford-road, Camberwell, London, S.E.

WANTED, First-class Ladies' Trio, for one of leading hotels in the Lakes. Address, with all particulars, McKANE, Keswick, Cumberland.

WANTED,
MUSICIANS
for
Full Orchestra,

TOWER, MORECAMBE.

Variety, &c.,
Twice Daily.

For
Two Weeks
at
Easter,
Whit Week,
and
Season,
July, August, Sept.

Apply by letter,
with copies of recent references,
and full details
to
H. R. V. ADDENBROOKE,
General Manager,
TOWER,
MORECAMBE.

Mark envelope, "Musicians."

WANTED, Small Brass Band, with leader, for tenting 1920. Apply, with lowest terms, to J. BIDDALL, Circus, Annan.

CINEMA SOLO PIANISTS.
WANTED Known, MUSIC for every type of picture can be Hired at the following rates:—
6 pieces 1s. 3d. } Free.
20 pieces 3s. 9d. } Post
30 pieces 5s. 3d. }
Where possible send synopsis of film with order. Satisfaction guaranteed.
MME. NINA OWENS, Music Library, 13, High-street, Sevenoaks, Kent.

WANTED Known, Cinema Organists and Pianists Trained by F.R.C.O.; excellent opportunities for experience; orchestral accompaniments a speciality; salaries from £4 to £8 weekly. For terms (correspondence or otherwise), apply F.R.C.O., 28, Torbay-road, Brondesbury, N.W. 6.

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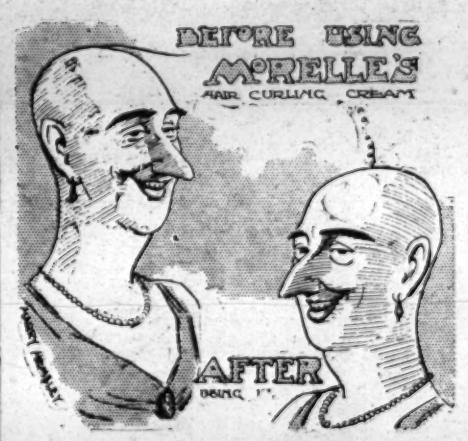

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WE, J. LESLYE ELLIOTT and L. CLIFFORD KNIGHT, trading as The London and Provincial Musical Association, intend to apply to the London County Council for a licence to carry on an EMPLOYMENT AGENCY for Bands, Orchestras, and Concert Artists, at No. 26a, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W., such agency to be known as The London and Provincial Musical Association. All objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, S.W. 1, within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

I, HARRY JAMES SHEA, known as Harry Barclay, intend to apply to the London County Council for a licence to carry on an Employment Agency for Theatrical and Variety Artists at No. 16, Green-street, Leicester-square, London, W.C. 2, such agency to be known as Harry Barclay and Co.

All objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, London, S.W. 1, within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) HARRY JAMES SHEA.

A DISCOVERY IN WINDSOR.

Had the footsteps of the correspondent of the "Daily Mail" strayed the length of the twenty odd miles which separate London from the Royal town of Windsor, it is very probable that he would have paused in his voyage of discovery of new theatrical talent, and would have cried, Eureka!

At any rate, there, in the picturesque little Theatre Royal, which stands almost opposite the chamber in Windsor Castle wherein Queen Elizabeth's august eyes were reputed to have seen the first performance of Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor," is appearing this week a young lady who is fulfilling all the functions of principal lady in a manner which would do credit to a West End actress. Miss Ivy Luck is the lady's name, and the part which she graces is Prudence, in J. H. Shaw's production of "The Quaker Girl." We do not remember to have seen for many a long day so winsome a personality and so dainty a dancer in touring musical comedy. Prudence is, of course, a part which calls for the display of many characteristics, from coyness to rage, and Miss Luck, without any slavish imitation of any of her famous predecessors, succeeds in satisfying all demands. Heredity counts for a lot in the art du théatre, and it is interesting to record that Miss Ivy Luck is the daughter of Mr. Oscar Luck, of the six brothers of that ilk. Miss Luck is an artist whose future will be watched with interest.

Mr. Ernest Metcalfe, recently Press and publicity agent for the O'Mara Opera Co., has been re-engaged by Mr. Gilbert Miller as Press representative for "Daddy Long-Legs" spring tour, extending to June 28.

Miss Ivy Pole, who was principal boy in pantomime at Bath, is engaged to play a principal part in "Baby Bunting" on tour, beginning March 8.

"THE FOLD."

Play, in Four Acts, by Marchioness Townshend, Produced for the First Time on Any Stage at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, March 1.

Edith Gibbs .... Miss Hilda Trevelyan
Mr. Perkins ..... Mr. Sydney Paxton
Mrs. Perkins .... Mrs. A. B. Tapping
Edward Gibbs .... Mr. Frank Randall
Jim Bentley..Mr. G. Gordon Richards
Chauffeur ..... Mr. C. B. Henty
Mme. Nada Zelienkova
Mme. Eugenia Ratmirova
Miss Plum .... Miss Norah Nicholson
Nurse Davis ..... Miss Clare Lindsay
Mr. Pullen ..... Mr. Stanley Drewitt
Lady Dunbar ..... Miss Elsie Stafford
David Wentworth
Mr. Hubert Woodward
Prince Ivan Stephanoff
Mr. G. W. Parke
Sir Charles Brackenbury
Mr. Alfred Harding
Dimitri ..... Mr. Ernest Ward
Peter ..... Master W. Rose

This new play, by Marchioness Townshend, was put on by Messrs. Eugene C. Stafford and Hubert Woodward at the Gaiety Theatre, Manchester, on Monday, with Mr. Stanley Drewitt as producer, and will occupy the stage for the next three weeks.

The story of "The Fold" is one of temperament and environment. Edward Gibbs, a schoolmaster, finds himself so cramped by the puritanical character of his surroundings that he yields to the temptation of an exotic Russian dancer to frequent her flat in London for the the development of a wider knowledge of life. The drama of the situation lies in the fact that Gibbs is married, and his rather passive wife has awakened to the need of using all her feminine attractions of person and temperament in order to win the battle for his love. Gibbs, however, never fails in his fidelity to his wife, and the Russian dancer, though piqued by his refusal, eventually assists in securing to him a secretaryship worth £800 a year, in place of the position he loses as schoolmaster because of the rumours of his evil doing. The play needs much compression, but was admirably played and staged. Miss Hilda Trevelyan was most delightful as Edith Gibbs. The chapel element was finely presented by Mr. Sydney Paxton as Mr. Perkins, Mrs. Tapping as Mrs. Perkins, and Mr. Stanley Drewitt as Parson Pullen, while Mr. Frank Randall played cheerfully and competently as the impressionable and adventurous Edward Gibbs. Mlle. Ratmirova as Nada furnished a striking contrast to Edith, and gave an attractive performance. All the other parts were well played. There is much excellent humour in the play, which was very favorably received.

"LA TOSCA."

Adaptation by Paul Berton, in Five Scenes from the Play by Victor Sardou, Produced at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, on Monday, March 1.

Baron Scarpia ...Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw
Mario Cavaradossi ...Mr. Vincent Clive
Cesare Angelotti ....Mr. Henry Ludlow
Marchese Attavanti
Mr. Grahame Herington
Eusebo ..... Mr. Gilbert Porteous
Schiarrone ..... Mr. J. W. Austin
Vicomte de Trevilhac
Mr. William Daunt
Captain Spoletta
Mr. Harold J. Widdicombe
Trivalle ..... Mr. Eric H. Albury
Pasiello ....Mr. W. Hastings Medhurst
Capreola .....Mr. Eric Ellesmere
Calometti ..... Mr. F. Perkins
Ceccho ..... Mr. E. Albury
Maria Carolina..Miss Henrietta Leverett
Princess Orlania ..Miss Aimee de Burgh
Luciana ..... Miss Beatrice Raymond
Gennarino .....Miss Mercia Cameron
Floria Tosca ..... Miss Ethel Irving

Called upon for a speech after prolonged demonstrations of approval on the fall of the curtain on the production of "La Tosca" on Monday night, Miss Ethel Irving, in responding, asked indulgence for any shortcomings incident to a first performance, when a voice from the gallery answered, "There are no shortcomings, Miss Irving," and the huge audience, still standing and clapping, endorsed the opinion expressed by an enthusiastic cheer.

"La Tosca" has been described as Sardou's masterpiece. It has certainly provided Miss Ethel Irving with her masterpiece, which, considering her previous successes, says much. The part is one which makes the most serious demands upon an actress in the course of its five acts, or "scenes," as now described, but Miss Irving surmounted all difficulties, acted with growing charm and power, and in the stirring situations towards the close displayed the thrill of real tragedy. Her performance evidences deep study. It advances in gradations, and is ever artistic.

In the great scene where Scarpia has Mario tortured in the ante-chamber that La Tosca may be induced by his groans to betray his secret, Miss Irving's unrestrained emotion greatly impressed the house and drew forth a storm of applause at the close.

The support is of the best. Mr. Jerrold Robertshaw plays Scarpia with great intensity and picturesque force; Mr. Vincent Clive is full of buoyant animation as Mario; Mr. Henry Ludlow creates great interest in the plight of Angelotti, and Mr. Grahame Herington is humorous as the Marchese. The Queen, too, is represented in telling fashion by Miss Henrietta Leverett. Scenery and costumes, designed by Mr. Percy Maquoid, are in the best taste, and Mr. Howard Carr's music is helpful.

THE STUDIO CLUB.

A triple bill, consisting of three one-act plays by Gwen Lally, attracted a large gathering of members and their friends to the Studio Club the other evening. The first—and the best—of the plays, "The Fair Intruder," dealt with an incident in the life of Lord Byron, in which Miss Constance Burleigh gave a finished and moving study of Lady Caroline Lamb, who, disguised as a boy, invades the sanctum of her former lover, the inconstant, self-centred poet, thoughtfully played by Mr. H. Brough-Robertson. "A Thief of the Night," a modern "burglar" drama, was not so convincing, and "The Rose of Sharon," founded on a Biblical story, which concluded the programme, suffered rather from the limited space afforded the players, but none the less gave Miss Constance Burleigh and Mr. Brough-Robertson an opportunity for displaying their keen sense of the dramatic.

BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

"PARSIFAL."

The Sir Thomas Beecham Opera Company opened at Covent Garden on Tuesday, the 24th ult., with "Parsifal," an appropriate choice with regard to the time of year, and also because Wagner's sacred music-drama is one of the company's notable successes. The rule prohibiting the entrance of late-comers during the performance was rightly enforced, but sufferers were few, since the house was nearly full from the start.

Good as the first representation was last November, this one showed a remarkable advance on it, due, of course, to the security that comes with repetition. This is true, at any rate, with regard to the stage part. There was practically no room for improvement on the orchestra's playing then. And Mr. Albert Coates, who conducted, again gave an impressive interpretation of the score. The exaltation of the Grail scenes and the mystic serenity of the Good Friday music were wonderfully realised.

At the outset Mr. Walter Hyde's Parsifal strikes the right note of careless insensibility that makes his later spiritual awakening all the more striking. In the last act he revealed unexpected heights and depths of feeling. His singing was beautiful throughout, his tone rich and full, and the silvery quality of his voice seemed to deepen the impression of nobility and purity of character suggested by his acting. The Amfortas of Mr. Edmund Burke had great sincerity and earnestness, and his singing, particularly in the second Grail scene, was poignantly emotional. As before, Mr. Norman Allin gave his finely sung Gurnemanz a lovable human personality, and Mr. Herbert Langley was a powerful Klingsor. Both in singing and in acting there is a big difference for the better in Miss Gladys Ancrum's Kundry. The struggle between the sides of the dual nature is now most cleverly and dramatically shown. The Flower Maidens' scene went well, and the singing of the hidden choir in the church had a beautiful effect. The only serious fault to find concerns enunciation. Hardly a word from anybody could be caught. The only exception was Mr. Foster Richardson, whose Titurel was again admirable from this as well as from other points of view.

"THE FAIR MAID OF PERTH."

Sir Thomas Beecham was warmly received on Wednesday night, when he appeared to conduct "The Fair Maid of Perth." This was the first Covent Garden performance. That Bizet's opera has not made much headway here since the Beecham company produced it at Drury Lane in 1917 is certainly due to the feeble "book" which has no shadow of right to masquerade under the title of Scott's novel. But judging from the enthusiasm shown on Wednesday, Londoners are at last ready to overlook the plot's vacuities, and are settling down to enjoy the delightful music and the not less delightful manner of its orasentation.

All the cast, with one exception, are as much at home in their rôles as repeated successful performances at Manchester and elsewhere can make them. Miss Sylvia Nelis sang Catherine's florid music very cleverly. In the sustained parts the voice seemed fuller than it was, and the quality, as always, was beautifully pure. As Hal o' the Wynd Mr. Webster Millar sang with fresh, bright tone, and acted with his usual convincing sincerity. Miss Edith Clegg's Mab was another acting success. Although Mr. Walter Hyde asked indulgence on the score of a cold his voice sounded as rich as ever in the Duke's songs. One of the evening's features was Mr. Foster Richardson's fine singing of Ralph's drinking ditty. Mr. Norman Allin, appearing at short notice in place of Mr. Powell Edwards, indisposed, sang notably well and gave old Simon Glover's character the proper bluff, down-right touch.

The chorus seem to have recovered their early vocal quality. They sang splendidly in the revels scene. Here, too, some new gipsy dances were effective. Sir Thomas Beecham's influence was manifest in the orchestra's playing. It was wonderfully delicate and clear-cut, and the interludes were things of beauty.

"SAMSON AND DELILAH."

There was a fine cast for Saint-Saëns' "Samson and Delilah" on Thursday night. As often before, Miss Edna Thornton was the Delilah and Mr. Frederick Blamey the Samson, and more suitable exponents than they would be difficult to find. The vibrant, luscious quality of Miss Thornton's voice seems to express the very essence of Delilah's passion and seductiveness, and Mr. Blamey's proportions, not less than his virile and forceful singing, fit him well to represent the man of might and muscle. Mr. Edmund Burke, appearing for the first time in London as the High Priest, sang with magnificent power and made a majestic figure in his sacerdotal robes. Mr. Foster Richardson, too, gave fine singing in the part of the Aged Hebrew. Mr. William Michael was a sufficiently fiery Abimelech, and Messrs. Ernest Howie, Frederick Davies, and Frederick Hitchin filled small rôles capably. The ensemble was particularly good, a fact on which Mr. Percy Pitt, who conducted, is again to be congratulated. The chorus work was excellent, and the dances attractive.

"TRISTAN AND ISOLDE."

"A "Tristan and Isolde" conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham was always an event, but even he can hardly have given an audience so many unforgettable moments as he gave his hearers at Friday's performance, when almost every phrase of the orchestra's playing seemed to bring to light fresh beauties, or beauties only half comprehended before. Some of the performances on the stage, notably the Isolde of Mme. Agnes Nicholls, helped to strengthen this impression of a new revelation. The purity of her voice and a certain serene and sweet control in her singing lent to the story of human passion a sort of spiritual significance to which past Isoldes have not accustomed us. Mr. Frank Mullings' Tristan was tuned in an accordant key, and was a much finer thing than he has yet done. It is an achievement that stamps him, once for all, as a great artist. Miss Gladys Ancrum's Brangane, like everything she does, was full of interest, and there was a fine piece of singing—dramatic in the best sense—from Mr. Frederick Ranalow as King Mark. The Kurvenal of Mr. Herbert Langley (in place of Mr. Percy Heming, indisposed) had force and sincerity; Mr. Sydney Russell was an effective Melot; and the songs of the sailor, the steersman, and the shepherd were well sung by Messrs. F. Davies, L. Russell, and E. Howle.

"FAUST."

The attractions of Gounod's ever-green "Faust," and an excellent cast combined, brought a huge audience to Saturday's matinée. Miss Miriam Licette, in beautiful voice, was as often before a Marguerite of much charm and grace. The new Faust, Mr. Gerald O'Brien, has a light, agreeable voice, but was obviously not free from the paralysing effects of nervousness. There was a powerful Mephistopheles in Mr. Edmund Burke. His Prince of Darkness's distinguishing trait is a cynical contempt for humankind. He has the range for the part, and, of course, sang splendidly as he knows how to do—but with an abuse of power on high tones that told on his voice long before the end of the opera. A most favourable impression was made by the new baritone, Mr. Eric Marshall, who both looked well and sang well as Valentine. The Siebel, Miss Kathleen Moore, had a telling voice; Miss Elsie Wynne was a capable Martha; and Mr. Philip Bertram sang Wagner's verses effectively. Mr. Eugene Goossens, jun., conducted with skill and spirit.

"TANNHÄUSER."

There has been much changing about of rôles since we first saw the Beecham production of "Tannhäuser." On Monday night only two of the original cast remained—Mr. Frank Mullings in the name-part, and Miss Gladys Ancrum, who is surely the youngest and most seductive, as well as one of the sweetest-voiced Venuses Covent Garden boards have seen. Mr. Mullings, as Tannhäuser, sang almost, if not quite, as well on Monday as on Friday, and that is high praise. To the best of our recollection this was Mme. Elsa Stralia's first appearance as Elisabeth. She made a gracious and queenly Princess, and her voice sounded very warm and brilliant. There was a splendid enthusiasm about the singing of the "Greeting." Mr. William Michael had a difficult task in taking up Wolfram, for which Mr. Dinh Gilly had been announced. But he did well, singing with frankness and freedom, and good vibrant tone. The sonority of Mr. Foster Richardson's voice lent weight to the Landgrave's music; Mr. Arthur Wynn put a touch of character into Biterolf's song; and Messrs. Sydney Russell, F. Davies, and S. Lansdale were satisfactory as Walther, Schreiber, and Reinmar respectively. The Shepherd's song was prettily sung by Miss Lillian Stanford. Mr. Albert Coates conducted, and there is no need to say how well the score fared at his hands.

"THE FORBIDDEN THING."

Play, in Three Acts, by Lanwarne Hawkins, Produced at the Victoria Hall, Hanley, on Monday, Feb. 21.

Mary ..... Miss Gladys Helmore
Father Selwyn .....Mr. A. Hunter
Margaret Mayne ....Miss Joan Rogers
Vera Thorpe .....Miss Lilian Dundas
Mr. B. Prowser .....Mr. Frank Irish
Nora ..... Miss Gladys Gordon
Capt. Martin Leigh, R.N.
Mr. Charles Congere
Sir Digby Toll ....Mr. Brandon Blake
Amos Tranter ....Mr. Norman Stanley

This new play was presented by the company of Morality Players previous to its being produced shortly in London. The main theme is spiritualism, and the scene is the morning-room of a country villa in the South of England. Mrs. Vera Thorpe is a charming young war widow, whose husband has been reported killed in an aeroplane adventure. She believes it is possible to have communication with her dead husband, and, in the hope of being freed from a vow made between them when married, Mrs. Thorpe engages the services of a medium, Mr. B. Prowser, and a séance is arranged. The medium, however, is unmasked by Father Selwyn (a priest who takes a keen interest in Vera's welfare) and Captain Leigh. Later Sir Douglas Toll, a great scientist, and president of the British Spiritualism League, has an interview with Mrs. Thorpe, and he offers to put her into communication with her dead husband. He puts her in a trance, but the priest intervenes and pronounces a curse on experiments of such evil nature, the scene leading up to an unexpected and powerful climax.

The play is finely acted. Miss Gladys Helmore does well as Mary; Mr. A. Hunter is successful as the priest, Father Selwyn; Miss Joan Rogers gives a thoroughly satisfactory embodiment of Margaret Mayne; Miss Lilian Dundas as the young widow cannot be too highly praised for her admirable performance; Mr. Frank Irish as the medium submits a clever character study; and Miss Gladys Gordon as Nora gives efficient assistance. Mr. Chas. Congere as Captain Leigh is good, and Mr. Brandon Blake as Sir Digby Toll and Mr. Norman Stanley as a gardener also deserve favourable mention.

"THE STRIKE THAT FAILED."

AN APOLOGY.

To Messrs. Kenneth Brown, Baker, Baker, Solicitors,
Lennox House, Norfolk-street,
Strand, W.C. 2.

Sirs,—In "The Era" newspaper of Oct. 22 last there appeared an interview headed "The Strike that Failed," in the course of which it was stated that a member of the National Association of Theatrical Employees had resorted to "personation, forgery, and the obtaining of money as a result"

You have informed us that the member of the Union referred to is known to a number of people as Mr. Edward Dare, and that he had been an employee of the theatre. You have also informed us that the statements in the interview have been taken to refer to your client. In the circumstances we much regret any annoyance that may have been caused to your client thereby, and for our part we unreservedly disown such charges and express our regret that "The Era" should have been the medium for the publication of the statement in question.—Yours, &c.,

THE PROPRIETORS OF "THE ERA."

The Foreshore Committee of the county borough of Southport invite tenders for the right to place deck chairs on a portion of the Southport foreshore on the north-easterly side of the Marine Drive, known as the Children's Playground, and on the seaward side of the promenade between Nevill-street and Seabank-road, from March 29 to Oct. 2.

"TEMPTATION."

Play, by Gladys Hastings Walton, Produced at the Theatre Royal, South Shields, on Friday, Feb. 27.

Col. Sir Hilary Maitland, Bart.
Val. C. Merlin
Richard Maitland .....Arthur Hinton
Arnold Maitland .....Fred Edouin
Captain Frank Armour ..Joseph Bloor
Angus McTavis .....Edward Brooke
"Tot-o'-Rum" .....Harry Gould
Venning ..... Arthur Trail
Lady Maitland .....Laura Wright
Molly Maitland .....Florrie Love
Lady Lucy Hellewell ..Irene Atchison
Lualí ..... Peggy Courteney

The opening of the play takes place on the Island of "Tualpi," one of the Polynesian group in the Pacific, whither Arnold Maitland, the younger son of the Maitlands, of Maitland Hall, has gone, after a quarrel with his parents, consequent on their refusal to sanction marriage between himself and Lucy—the girl of his choice—who, however, soon consoles herself by marrying a wealthy nobleman, and becoming Lady Lucy Hellewell. Enraged and disappointed, he marries Princess Lualí, the half-caste orphan daughter of an Englishman who had married into the native tribe, and, before his death, become a great white chief. Filled with a desire to revenge himself on his aristocratic family, Arnold sends Lualí home to England in her native costume, with instructions that, should his parents refuse to recognise her, she is to seek help from his elder brother, Richard, whom he describes as being a real white man in spirit, although crippled in body. Lualí's appearance at Maitland Hall causes general consternation, and her reception is the reverse of cordial, but Richard pleads, powerfully, for fair play for the girl. Lady Lucy interferes, however, and reveals to the girl that she has only been made Arnold's wife as a means of revenge, and that she (Lucy) was the woman of his choice. Again Richard comes to the rescue, and orders Lady Lucy out of the house, but Lualí, after a passionate despairing speech, in which she recounts the wrong Arnold has done her, ends by laying a native curse on him—attempts to stab herself with a dagger, but is prevented in the nick of time by Richard. Thoroughly miserable and desperate, she learns to seek comfort and help from the cripple, who gradually wakens to the fact that he loves his brother's wife. Arnold, at last realising the injustice he has done Lualí, and finding that he really loves her passionately, returns home unexpectedly, but is met with coldness and doubt by Lualí. Lucy, who has in the meanwhile been widowed, seeks to turn the tide of affairs to her own advantage by suggesting to Arnold that he should divorce Lualí, but he scorns the suggestion with contempt and loathing, and proclaims his love for Lualí, which the latter overhears. Lucy leaves the house in a rage, and while driving home in her car attempts to run down the little heir, but this Richard manages to frustrate, only to be knocked down himself, with the result that his back is broken. He is carried in, and, just before the end, has the satisfaction of joining the hands of the two he loves; and, dying, proves himself to be a man. Miss Hastings Walton has written a charming play, full of character and feeling, and a little out of the ordinary run of melodrama.

The piece has the advantage of adequate and intelligent interpretation. Mr. Arthur Hinton as Richard Maitland, the cripple, gave a fine portrayal of the English gentleman who puts honour first. Mr. Fred Edouin handled the part of Arnold Maitland very successfully. Miss Peggy Courteney, quite charming as Lualí, conveyed, very cleverly, the subtle difference between the woman on her native soil, and in more civilised surroundings. Miss Irene Atchinson played Lady Lucy with distinction, and depicted the despicable side of the character without undue exaggeration. Miss Laura Wright got plenty of laughs for her comedy scenes. Mr. Edward Brooke played earnestly as Angus McTavis. Miss Florrie Love as Molly Maitland, and Mr. Joseph Bloor as Captain Frank Armour, provided some bright comedy, and the smaller parts were all in good hands. The piece was well received by a large audience.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to—

Ada Reeve—Wednesday, March 3.
Jessie Lindsay—Wednesday, March 3.
Ada Crossley—Wednesday, March 3.
Nannie Meade—Wednesday, March 3.
Minnie Tittell-Brune—March 3.
Rollo Balmain—Wednesday, March 3.
Arthur Stratton—Thursday, March 4.
L. Godfrey-Turner—Thursday, March 4.
Mary Campbell—Thursday, March 4.
Winnie Hudson—Thursday, March 4.
Fewlass Llewellyn—Friday, March 5.
F. W. Purcell—Friday, March 5.
Harry Bawn—Friday, March 5.
W. C. Burns—Friday, March 5.
Frank Aylmer—Friday, March 5.
Leonard Rayne—Saturday, March 6.
Frank Vernon—Saturday, March 6.
Will Bishop—Saturday, March 6.
Rosamund Belmore—Saturday, March 6.
Roy C. Craig—Saturday, March 6.
Percy Burton—Sunday, March 7.
Frank Esmond—Sunday, March 7.
Fred Graham—Sunday, March 7.
Herbert Grimwood—Sunday, March 7.
Leonard Russell—Monday, March 8.
Jerrold Manville—Tuesday, March 9.
Arthur Gallimore—Tuesday, March 9.
Amy Brandon-Thomas—March 9.

A.A. COUNCIL ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—Will you permit me to use your columns for the purpose of thanking all those who voted for me? I have only one word of warning to utter, and it is this: Unless a greater proportion of members vote than have voted on this occasion, the Council's work is seriously hampered, and the apathy, we all deplore, far from disappearing, has merely been transferred from outside the Association to the inside of it!—Yours truly, F. B. J. SHARP.

The Savage Club, Adelphi, London, W.C. 2, Feb. 28, 1920.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. James M. McCann, the popular manager of the Grand Opera House, Belfast, is recovering from the serious illness from which he has suffered for the past three weeks.

"PADDY, THE NEXT BEST THING."

Play, in Four Acts, Adapted from the Novel by Gertrude Page, by Gayer MacKay and Robert Ord, and Produced, for the First Time on any stage, at the New Queen's Theatre, Manchester, on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

General Adair .....J. H. Barnes
Dr. Davy Adair .....Clive Currie
Rilson ..... Betty Faire
Paddy ..... Peggy O'Neil
Miss O'Hara .....Una O'Connor
Miss Mary O'Hara..Margaret Nicholls
Jack O'Hara .....A. McMaster
Laurence Blake .....Ion Swinley
Doreen Blake .....Nan Fitzgerald
Gwendoline Carew ....Winifred Evans
Lord Sellaby ..... H. V. Tollemache
Micky ..... Hyland T. O'Shea
Webb ..... Ethel Callanan
Mrs. Bingle .....Christine Jensen
Mrs. Putter .....Rose Edouin

Not very long ago, the New Queen's Theatre, Manchester, saw the first production of "Little Women," a version of a charming and world-wide successful book. The production was a success. The production of "Paddy, the Next Best Thing" is a parallel case. There are millions of readers of Gertrude Page's novel, and certainly there will be multitudes of those readers, infatuated with the charm and interest of the story—whether the atmosphere be truly Irish or not—who will go to see this play, and, what is more, who will realise their ideal heroine in Miss Peggy O'Neil, whom Mr. Robert Courtneidge secured, in a moment of good fortune, to play the title-part.

There is no pretension to drama, nor can the play lay claim to any special strength of characterisation, apart from the rôle of Paddy. The story is transparent throughout. Paddy and her sister Eileen are suddenly reduced in circumstances by the death of their father, General Adair. Laurence Blake is in love with Paddy, but the latter, under the impression that he has not done the right thing by Eileen, conceives a fierce dislike of him, and cultivates it with all the impetuous irresponsibility of an unreasoning and wilful tomboy. Not to be beaten, Laurence pursues her to London, where she has taken up an employment as dispenser to Dr. Davy, her uncle, but it is not without much perseverance and humorous tact that he is eventually successful in bringing Paddy to her senses.

There is a railway carriage incident which is wonderfully well staged, and Dr. Davy's dispensary is an almost too complete concession to realism, but the whole play is magnificently put on in the very best Courtneidge style, and this, along with the personality of Miss Peggy O'Neil, is going to see the production through to a quite considerable success. The subsidiary parts are sufficiently well handled by the other members of the cast, the most notable impersonations being the Laurence Blake of Mr. Ion Swinley, the Gwendoline Carew of Miss Winifred Evans, Mr. J. H. Barnes's depiction of General Adair, Mr Clive Currie's Dr. Adair, and Miss Betty Faire's Eileen. The overture, entr'actes, and incidental music have been composed by Mr. Herbert E. Haines, and Mr. R. C McCleery is responsible for the scenery.

"FRIEND O' MINE."

Romantic Play, in Two Acts, with Music, by Evelyn Thomas, Produced at the Stratford Theatre Royal on Thursday, Feb. 26.

Sir Walter Bescoby ....Gerald Wright
Lola Stanley .....Mary Campbell
Heather ..... Cynthia Gordon
Dick Maitland ..... Guy Hallett
Major Dennis Croft ....Gifford Reynold
The Man who Wasn't Killed
T. B. Brabazon
Zinga ..... Nancy Meron
Mrs. Raymond ..... Betty Somers
Mr. Raymond ..... H. E. Beilby
Jane ..... Molly Creeighton
George ..... Rich Warren

The story is based upon the flippant action of a young girl of a sentimental turn of mind, who writes to cheer up "a lonely soldier," not knowing who he is nor his passionate nature. When at last he is able to visit England, he seeks the unknown writer, but by what turns out the end a lucky mistake, he first meets the moter, with whom he falls in love. He believes her husband has been killed in action, and persuades her into a hurried marriage. The husband, however, appears on the scene, learns of the marriage, and determines to follow the couple. He confronts them on board an outward-bound vessel, and a scene full of pathos and tragedy occurs. Conscience-stricken by the despicable part he has played in his wife's life, the husband turns his back on his old life and goes off to the desert to hide himself. There he meets an Arab girl, with whom he has an intrigue, and who eventually murders him for his perfidy. The lonely soldier lover of the wife proves indeed the "Friend o' Mine," and the two are reunited.

The part of Lola Stanley was sustained by Miss Mary Campbell with fine characterisation, while that of Lola's daughter, Heather, had a very human interpretation from Miss Cynthia Gordon. Dick Maitland, a naval lieutenant, who is in love with Heather, was breezily acted by Mr. Guy Hallett; and the strong part of the lonely soldier, Major Dennis Croft, was embodied by Mr. Gifford Reynold with all the necessary forcefulness. The Man who Wasn't Killed, the husband of Mrs. Stanley, was an ideal villain in the hands of Mr. T. B. Brabazon; and the Arab girl was strongly played by Miss Nancy Meron. Miss Betty Somers and Mr. H. E. Beilby ably sustained the minor parts of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond, guests of Sir Walter Bescoby, who himself was effectively impersonated by Mr. Gerald Wright. The usual humorous relief was provided by Miss Molly Creeighton and Mr. Rich Warren, who played the parts of Jane, Mrs. Stanley's maid, and George, an able-bodied seaman, respectively.

Mr. Andre Charlot has removed his general offices from 6, Arundell-street, Piccadilly, to Prince's-chambers, Prince of Wales's Theatre.

The second award in the Erskine MacDonald prize novel competition goes to a London actress and playwright, Miss Clare Elstob, for a vivid story dealing with theatrical and art life in London. "One Poor Woman" will be published shortly, and Miss Elstob promises to follow it up with a still more realistic novel of the stage.

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND.—P., The Victory Theatres, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green; Mus. D., Mr. Geo. Haworth.—Miss Madge Fenton presents "My American Girl" here to capital houses. The cast includes Messrs. Fred E. Taylor, E. Telford Terris, and Miss Hilda Playfair.

NEW HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. J. Leo Connor; Mus. D., Mr. Jas. Taylor.—Bessie Brenne and Walter Erard, presenting a musical speciality; The Marvellous Fugi Family, Japanese acrobats; Wal Marsden, comedian; Bert Neilson, dancer; Priddo, ventriloquist; Denise and Jan, speciality artists; The Wynfords, jumpers; J. C. Max, coon singer; F. V. St. Clair, topical vocalist.

Boors, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-rd.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, jun.—Miss Madge Grey and company in "Our Kid."

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle.—Heading the bill here for the week is "The Globe of Life"; Australia's most daring riders, Miss and Mr. Staig; sensational feats by cycle and motor-cycle; J. Alexander presents the Grand Opera Singers, six star artists in famous operatic potpourri of excerpts; Hilda Mostyn, star chorus comedienne; Francis and Alfred, jugglers; Bert Grove, comedian; A. H. Woods, novelty speciality act; Jim Nolan, favourite comedian; Takeo and Komo Nambo, Japo-American eccentrics.

PICTURE PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite.—Jeom Gordon, comedy musician; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 140, Old-eq.

BATLEY.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — G. M., Mr. P. Leonard; Mus. D., Mr. A. Hurst.—The Blythe-Baker Productions present "Any Lady."

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. John Moncur; Asst. A. M., Mr. Frank E. Davies.—E. Lewis Waller and Phillip Bennett present "In the Night Watch."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Elliston; A. M., Mr. Alf. Booth. — Five Jocks, in comedy and vocal scena; Five Wartons, comedy springboard flyers; Florrie Cameron, in song and dance; Tiny and Tot, eccentric dancers; Tom Fox, comedian; Bronte Four, in grande act musicale.

HIPPODROME.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. J. F. Shelley; A. M., Mr. Frank Shelley.—Arthur G. Hart and Jack Harris present "Cinderella."

Boors, the Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-street; 139, Derby-street.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Claude E. Marner; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Leake.—Harry Day presents "Funbeams," with an excellent cast, which includes Kitty Emson.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—S. P., Messrs. David Allen and Sons; S. L., Mme. Gertrude Mouillot; R. M., Mr. Hubert Dunbar; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Brown. — Mr. J. A. E. Malone's company is paying a return visit in "High Jinks."

Boors, The Chemists, 108, Commercial-road; 76-78, Old Christchurch-road; 50, Charminster-road; 302, Holdenhurst-road, Westbourne; 80 Poole-road, West Southbourne; 20, Southbourne-grove, Winton; 105, Wimborne-road.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE. — P., Messrs. The Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—"Tatters," presented by Messrs. Kimberley and Liston.

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Cassie Walmer, eccentric contralto; Peter and his Little Peaches, vocal and dancing act; Smyles and Murratt, burlesque jugglery; Jeanne Reynolds, soprano vocalist; Tom B. Seymour, light comedian; The Copelands, soprano, tenor, and piano; in a vocal scena.

PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. H. Rintoul.—Lockhart's Elephants; May Edouin, comedienne; Ted Hopkins, humorist; Neville Delmar, comedian; Miss Violet Barti, instrumentalist; Granville and his orchestraphone; the Original Two Lillys and Assistant, in equilibristic and musical act.

Boors, The Chemists, 90, St. James-street.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. and G. M., Mr. P. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. P. Burgiss.—This week, Taylor Platt and Wilfred Eaton's company, "Caesar's Wife."

HIPPODROME.—L. and M., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—This week, Glad and I, in a dainty musical offering; Haidane, society entertainer; pictures, &c.

Boors, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gardens.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S.—L. & G. M., Mr. Ernest Stevens; M., Miss McBride.—The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company.

PALACE.—P., Macnaughten Vaudeville Circuit, Ltd.; M., Mr. J. D. Askew.—Jay Whidden; Vivian Foster, the Vicar of Mirth; Yoga, Indian juggler; Joan Maude and Lysbeth Leigh, harmonising duettists; Mme. Delamere's Table Circus; Ernie Whitmee, comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, 49, English-street.

CIRENCESTER.

BINGHAM.—Miss Kit Toms presents "The Dollar Baby."

DARWEN.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. John Holgate; Sec., Mr. James Kenyon; M., Mr. J. L. Connor.—The musical burlesque, "The Redheads," including Mr. John Child, is presented.

Boors, The Chemists, 10-11, Market-street.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field. — The musical comedy, "Arlette."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. B. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—The Belgian Anseroni, king of double and treble somersaults; Bridson, musician-ventriloquist; Dan Lemo, junr., comedian; Morgan and Griffiths, Welsh duettists; Elsie Denham, dainty comedienne; Ladringlos, golden athletes; Jennion's Mannikins, complete miniature theatre.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND.—L., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Mr. Leon Vint presents "Three Weeks."

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. W. North.—Chas. Hanbury and Johnnie Schofield in "His Last Night Out"; Harry Taft, American comic; Napoli, rag-time violinist; Emilie Tait, vocalist; Tom Lee, in songs at the piano; Lieutenant Gordon, in "Nosey, Courtmartialled"; Troupe Lombards, in "A Lesson in Gymnastics."

Boors, The Chemists, 70-71, Frenchgate.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Exeter Theatre Co., Ltd.; C. and M. D., Mr. Edward J. Domville; A. M., Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—Frederick G. Lloyd presents "Tails Up!"

Boors, The Chemists, 53, High-street.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS.—P., Folkestone Pleasure Garden Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Miss Phyllis Neilson-Terry in "Trilby."

Boors, The Chemists, 12, Rendezvous-street; 61, High-street.

GAINSBOROUGH.

KING'S THEATRE. — L., Mr. Arthur Carlton; R. M., Mr. Stanley Hooper; Mus. D., Mrs. E. E. Leaning.—Harry Firth's pantomime company in "Babes in the Wood."

Boors, The Chemists, 30, Market-place.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Walter Nightingale.—Harry Gribben presents "Aladdin."

Boors, The Chemists, 2, Broad-row, King-street, and Theatre Plain.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—P., The Hastings and St. Leonard's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. B. Scutt; Mus. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—Mr. Arthur Bourchier's company in "Scandal."

PIER PAVILION.—G. M., Mr. Chas. Hawker.—Messrs. Will Gane and Cecil Morley's season. The Anomalies, under the direction of Mr. Percy Willing, are here this week.

Boors, The Chemists, 17-19, Robertson-st.; George-st.

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—P., E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. T. Stockham.—Irma Lorraine and company; Tex McLeod, American cowboy; Bros. Curran, boxing comedians; The Deldus, versatile song show; Guilly and Jeanny, balancers; The Musical Monarchs; Ernest Roma, comedian, in "Bubbles."

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Miss Edith Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. R. Lewin Taylor.—Armitage and Leigh's repertoire company in "With Edged Tools," "Leon and the Mouse," "Passers-By," and "The Barrier."

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. W. Lupton.—The chief attraction is provided by Sara Williams, prima donna. Other turns include Selbinis, cyclists; Lallie and Leo, dancers; Maie Morley, comedian; Mangin and Kerbal, entertainers; Tambo and Tambo, tambourine spinners; Geo. Green, in a farcical absurdity, "Some Dog."

KENDAL.

ST. GEORGE'S THEATRE.—P., Mr. R. F. Chorley; R. M., Mr J. W. Butler; Mus. D., Mr. T. B. Jackson.—The Mandola Family, speciality musicians, and pictures.

KETTERING.

VICTORIA.—M., Messrs. Alf. Bailey and Co.—For Thursday night and remainder of week, the Taylor Platt company in "Nurse Benson," is announced.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros. —Robert A. Brown's Productions present "All My Eye."

Boors, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-street.

LEAMINGTON SPA.

THEATRE ROYAL.—G. M., Mr. Arthur Knight; M.D., Mr. Christopher Wilson.—"The Purple Mask."

Boors, The Chemists, 152, The Parade.

LUTON.

GRAND.—P., Mr. Graham Falcon; M., Mr. O'Sullivan.—"Hobson's Choice."

PALACE.—D., Messrs. Lyons and Hart; G. M., Mr. Mark Lorne; Mus. D., Mr. Purvis.—The Marvellous Mountfords, in their balancing act; The Zanettos, Jap comedy jugglers; Leslie Digby, in original songs and patter; Da Costa, a favourite tenor, and Vesta Lyton, a versatile vocalist; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 27, George-street.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. J. H. Milburn.—Marie Lloyd; Prof. Earle, magician; Gaston Morel, Parisian humorist; Geo. Calver, the voice controller; Meredith and Adnil, comedy acrobats; Arthur Ferriss, character comedian; Geo. D'Albert, comedian.

Boors, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-street.

NORTH SHIELDS.

ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; G. M., Mr. Horace Lee; M. D., Mr. Charles Turner.—Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Levy and Mr. J. E. Cardwell's Co. with pantomime, "The Sleeping Beauty."

BOROUGH THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. J. F. Heslop; M. D., Mr. Wm. Tennent.—Edwards Trio; instrumentalists; Avolos, in double somersault act; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-place.

OLDHAM.

GRAND.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow.—Messrs. George Grossmith and Edward Laurillard present "Chu Chin Chow."

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—The Elliott Savonas are here in "The Palace of Orpheus"; Armstrong and Howarth, in comedy; Cliff Barrett, assisted by Netta Cark, in a dame study, "Auntie's Visit"; Florence Yaymen, in her burlesque quick change act; Maude Gordon, comedienne; Crasey, Hicks, and Pass, in their absurdity, "The Big Baby Doll"; Fred Richards, eccentric comedian; and pictures.

ROYAL.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Harriss.—Alfred Denville's stock company appear here in "The Curse of the Black Pearl."

COLOSSEUM.—P., The Dobey Electric Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. W. Dobie. —Bert Hughes and Co. present a novel act, including cycling and basket-ball; The Five Bombays, in novelty dances; Willie Gardiner, dancer; The Brunettes, in Harmony; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 40-42, Mumps; 28, Market-place.

OSWESTRY.

KING'S.—P., Mrs. Wally George; M., Mr. W. George; M. D., Miss May Robinson.—The Great Nesbit, electrical inventor; Asscart, comedy juggler; Betty Rudd, comedienne; The Two Odols, dental gymnasts; Gwladys Pope, soprano; Johnny Watson, comedian; Butler and Barnes, comedy duo.

Boors, The Chemists, 5, Church-street.

OXFORD.

NEW.—P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. and S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present "Uncle Sam" here, with a matinée on Saturday.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Queen-street, and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PENTRE.

GRAND T.—P. & M., Mr. W. E. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Fred French.—Amusico Enterprises present the musical extravaganza, "Love and Sport."

PORT TALBOT.

NEW.—Joint L., Messrs. J. Evans and Vivian Aldridge; G. M., Mr. Vivian Aldridge; M., Mrs. Vivian Aldridge.—Miss Inez Howard's company in "Seven Days' Leave."

SALFORD.

PALACE.—P., Mr. Wm. T. Hill; M. D., Mr. Alan Young; G. M., Mr. A. S. Evanson; Asst. M., Mr. Horace Cocks.—Jay Laurier, Fred Duprez, Elsie Southgate, Arthur Woodville, Les Roberts, Nicol and Martin, Mona Gray, Royal Bartle Quartette, including Elsie and Babs.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Walter Bishop presents his pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," cast including Edna Latone.

Boors, The Chemists, 277-279, Chapel-street; 404, Regent-rd.; 191, Eccles New-rd.

SCARBOROUGH.

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peacock; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins.—This week (once nightly), Messrs. Levy and Jas. E. Cardwell's pantomime, "The House that Jack Built."

ROYAL.—L. and M., Mr. Matt Glenville. —This week (twice nightly), Messrs. Farsons' Pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood."

Boors, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-street; 18, Newborough.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—Austen Strong's comedy, "Three Wise Fools," under the direction of Julian Wylie and J. W. Tate, in conjunction with Andre Charlot. The leading artists are Chas. Aldred, Arthur Edmunds, Martin Walker, Huntly Gifford, and Stella Florence.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. John Hart; G. M. and T., Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—"Cinderella," finished on Saturday and T. Edward Ward's company opened on Monday with "Tommy's French Wife."

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Frank Allen; A. M., Mr. Sidebotham.—The bill this week includes May Moore Duprez, Minnie Rigby, and G. P. Pattman, Professor Duncan's Dogs, Maher and Langford, entertainers; Yamamoto and Koyoshi, Jap tumblers; McGregors, musical comedians; and pictures.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—R. M., Mr. H. C. Savage.—Nellie Wallace; Marie Novelle and her musician trio; A. D. Robins and his comedy cyclists; Graham and Palmer, jugglers; and the comical Footgers.

MONTGOMERY PALACE, LTD.—Cat-lin's Royal Pierrots, vaudeville, comedians, dances and sketches.

Boors, The Chemists, 55 and 57, Snig Hill; 252-54, West-street, and 2, Regent-street; 599, Attercliffe-road; 7, Netherthorpe-place; 97, South-street; 34, 36, Spittall-hill; 234, Shalesmoor; 135, Attercliffe-common; 760-2-4, Attercliffe-road; 440, Abbeydale-road; 207, Broomhall-street; 6, High-street; 2-4, Duke-street Park; 514-18, London-road, Heeley Bridge; 202, South-street, Moor; 652, Staniforth-road, Darnall; 129, Newbould-lane, Broomhill; 3-5, Middle-road, Hillsborough; 212, London-road.

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Southport Opera House and Winter Gardens Co. (1906), Ltd.—The comedy, "Daddy Jums," is here this week, the company including Mr. Louis Calvert.

PALLADIUM.—M. D., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. R. Singleton.—St. Juste and Higgins, the King's jesters, are here on a welcome return visit, and conspicuous in a good programme are La Petite Nina, Claude Gardiner, character comedian; The Veros, in a trapeze act; George Bolton, entertainer; The Musical Burglars; Harry Atkinson; and Zetta Mor.

PAVILION THEATRE. — Sole L., Mr. G. W. Bell; A. M., Mr. J. Thomson.—"Our Kid," musical comedy. The cast includes Miss Madge Gray.

Boors, The Chemists, 383-391, Lord-street, 10-12, Nevill-street, 26, Chapel-street.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis and Son; R. M., Capt. Willie Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Le Roy Parr.—Mr. W. W. Kelly presents his famous play, "A Royal Divorce."

Boors, The Chemists, 121a, Dunraven-st.

WATFORD.

PALACE THEATRE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor.—Madge Douglas and Ernest Vaughan's company, in the drama, "Discharged with Honour," is the attraction here.

Boors, The Chemists, 115, High-street.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

EMPIRE.—P., West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Eedes; R. M., Mr. Bert Proud.—Ella Shields; Two Rascals; Doyle's Juveniles; Carr Lynn, comedian and mimic; De Kube, eccentric singing violinist; Rich Hayes, the lazy clown; Nervo and Knox, in fantastic frolics.

Boors, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-street.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND.—S. L. and M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Jackson.—J. A. E. Malone's company in "The Merry Widow."

ROYAL.—P., Kimberley's, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley; M., Mr. Edwin T. Kisbey; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Bradley.—The Rennet Productions present a revival of Walter Howard's play, "Two Little Drummer Boys." Much interest is centred around this owing to the fact that Mr. F. G. Kimberley has consented to play his original part of Quincy O'Quirk for this week only.

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Guy E. Dunning; Mus. D., Mr. B. Sorge.—Harry Day presents "Stunts." Prominent in the cast are Kitty Colyer and Jimmie Leslie.

Boors, The Chemists, 7-8, Queen-street; 82, Chapel Ash.

YORK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Hutchison; A. M., Mr. Follett Pennell.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present "Going Up!"

OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. William Peacock.—Bert Gilbert presents "A Dark White Horse"; Foscoe, and his piano-accordian; Rene, lady juggler; Ellis Jackson, black-faced comedian; Selig and Hart, comedians; Tubby Turner, in comic oddities; A. K-Foleys, in character scena; Betty Washington, violinist.

Boors, The Chemists, 30, Coney-street.

The Rose in the Wilderness.

"MRS. DESPARD," announced the maid.

For the minute the name was unfamiliar; then, as a very perfectly tailored girl came into the room, I laughed.

"Why, Ruth, I was just wondering who the stranger was. I always forget my friends' married names. Tea, Marie, and hot buttered toast. Sit down, Ruth, you've happened in on coal and butter day. Well, how goes it?"

The firelight flickered on a pretty face that was momentarily hardened in a rather worried look.

"Fairly well," she said, as she loosened her furs. "Fact is, I've come to say good-bye. I've had a cable from David, and he wants me to go out to Australia to him on the next boat. Of course, I'll love to see him again, but it's all rather uprooting, isn't it? I've never lived on a ranch in my life, and I think I shall be rather homesick at first."

I sympathised, and we talked for some time. Then she said: "You know, I'm rather worried about the frivolous problem of keeping my looks. David told me that what first attracted him was the fact that I looked so different from most Australian women. But under Australian conditions, shall I be able to keep it up? For example, I have my hair washed and waved at a hairdresser's every fortnight; that will be impossible in my new life. And I look hideous with straight hair."

"Why, that's easily solved; take out a good supply of silmerine with you; once out there you can order it from Sydney, which will be your nearest town. You only want to damp your hair with it slightly and put in slides or a curler or two, which can easily be concealed under a boudoir cap. Get your hair accustomed to silmerine treatment on the voyage out; then, by the time you land, it will probably have developed a distinct natural tendency to curl, and will only occasionally need damping. Of course, it is much better for the hair than to sap all its gloss and vitality with hot irons. For a home shampoo, I think you cannot beat stallax; a tea-spoonful of stallax granules to a cup of hot water will make the most delicious foaming lather, which cleanses the hair splendidly. You'll be able to dry it in the sun in no time in that gorgeous climate! If I were you, I should always keep some reliable tonic in the house, for you never know when your hair may require a little stimulating. Yes, boranium and bay rum is excellent; I always use it. I should take some boranium out with you. You can get it in very convenient little packages. Also, I think it would be a very wise plan to keep some tammalite by you; dark hair like yours has a very disconcerting habit of turning grey in patches. Why don't you take out some tammalite? You may not need it for a long time, but it will keep. If your hair does show a tendency to fade, you have only to dissolve two ounces of tammalite in three ounces of bay rum, and you have a wonderful hair restorer ready for use."

"Well, that's all very consoling; you've cheered me up a lot," said Ruth, "but one awful problem is worrying me, and I doubt if even you could suggest a satisfactory solution."

"Let's hear it," I answered.

"Do you know that I am one of those unfortunate persons who suffer from superfluous hair. If I were not continually undergoing electric treatment I should be that horror—a woman with a moustache! What can I do in Australia, miles from civilisation?"

"Nothing is easier," I told her, "than to get rid of superfluous hair. Electrolysis, as I daresay you have found, is expensive and painful, and does not permanently destroy the hairs. You should never be without some pure powdered pheminol; it is obtainable in very nice little one-ounce bottles; an ounce should last a considerable time, and, of course, the powder form makes it ideal for travelling. To remove superfluous hair, you should mix a small quantity of the pheminol with an equal quantity of water into a stiff paste, rub it on the affected part, and after a couple of minutes the hair shrivels up, and disappears entirely."

"Why, that seems too good to be true!" exclaimed Ruth. "I must write that down. Now, Estelle, I'm going to worry you some more. What kind of complexion cream should I take? I want something that lasts, that doesn't take up much room, and, above all, that really does keep one's skin in condition?"

"The answer to the riddle is mercolised wax," I replied. "A couple of ounces such as chemists usually sell lasts for three or four months; it is solid, compact, and not wasteful to use, and it's the finest complexion beautifier there is. Its great merit is that instead of making the skin dull by clogging the pores with grease as too many 'face creams' do, it gently absorbs the dull outer tissue which gets coarsened by hard water, dirt, and so on—and reveals the dazzling freshness of the new skin below. Of course, in a hot climate where the sun and dust tend to ruin even the prettiest skins, it will be simply invaluable. I'll give you another useful tip: be sure to provide yourself with some tablets of stymol; then, if you happen to have a blackhead, you have only to melt one tablet in a little warm water, bathe the blackhead, and you will be able to remove it, without the slightest difficulty, with a clean towel."

"Thanks so much; I'm sure I shall be as grateful as grateful to you when I'm in the wilds of Australia. Of course, I shan't need powder, because since I discovered cleminite I haven't needed it."

"No, you couldn't do better than carry on with cleminite," I assured her. "I can't think why more women don't give up the old-fashioned messy powder and use that nice lotion instead. Well, Ruth, I think you'll blossom in the desert all right, if you are wise and take care of your looks."

"I hope I'll be able to," she said, "because however much one loves adventures and roughing it, I don't want to become a masculine-looking woman. After all, David liked me as he found me, and it's up to me to try and stay the same. I'm afraid my hands will get awfully red with scrubbing and so on," she laughed ruefully; "but still, it's not a big price for so much."

"You needn't suffer that much," I said; "if you use bicrolium jelly to get the dirt out of the cracks and take away the rough red look. When you have massaged them well, dust lightly with a little talc powder, and your hands will stay as pretty and white as they are now."

"I must go," she said, rising. "I don't in the least want to, but there are so many people to see. . . . Will you come and see me off? I sail on Friday fortnight . . . good-bye. . . ."

"Good-bye, Ruth, and the very best of luck to you both . . . write to me, won't you . . . good-bye."

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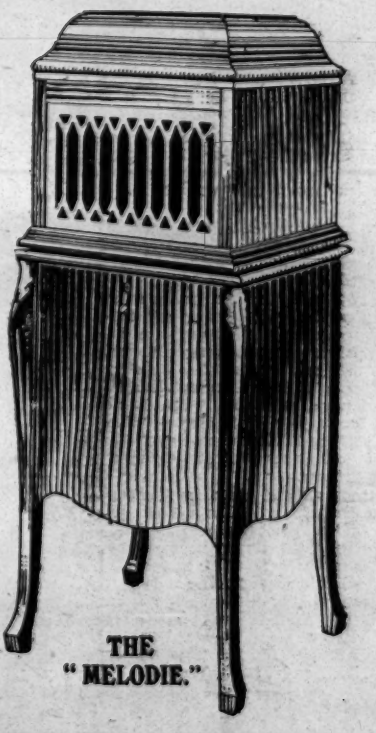

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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

Legislation for Managers—Sweets Restrictions in Theatres—Gaiety Principals Past and Present—Drama in the Villages.

Proposed Licensing of Managers.

Support for our view with regard to the proposed licensing of managers has come from Mr. W. G. Fay, to whose letter, printed in another column, we direct attention. Mr. Fay preceded the late Mr. Sydney Valentine as chairman of the Actors' Association, so that his solicitude for the welfare of the profession cannot be questioned. Mr. Fay agrees with us that to invoke the aid of the State to effect reforms which could be obtained by the profession itself is to run serious danger of creating an incubus from which it will be difficult to escape.

The matter came up in Parliament the other day, when the Home Secretary said in reply to a question that he was afraid he did not see his way to introduce legislation on the lines suggested, but that the matter was being considered and consultations going on.

Meanwhile, the Touring Managers' Association is convening a meeting of delegates of all the managerial associations, the concert party societies and the cinema, for the purpose of discussing the question of the licensing of managers in all its bearings. The Touring Managers' Association have already talked the matter over with a deputation from the Actors' Association and the Variety Artists' Federation. The date and place of the meeting have not yet been fixed, but it will probably be in a fortnight's time. We hope that the meeting will be able to evolve a scheme by which the evil may be remedied within the limits of the profession itself.

Sweets in Theatres.

It is greatly to be regretted that the Speaker felt himself obliged to cut out Capt. Bowyer's amendment to the War Restrictions Continuance Bill, in the House of Commons on Monday. The amendment provided that the restrictions upon the sale of sweets in theatres should be withdrawn, and as Capt. Bowyer had received promises of support from many members the amendment looked like succeeding.

The Home Secretary, we understand, was absent all the afternoon from the House, but returned just before the amendment would have been reached. On Saturday he told a questioner that the restrictions had not been withdrawn because he had received strong representations from the confectioners against the proposal to withdraw.

We respectfully question the strength of the confectioners' case. Logic, indeed, is all on the side of the theatre, for while the sale of sweets cannot harm dealers except those in the immediate neighbourhood of the theatre, it is the existence of the theatre that makes the sweet-shop possible.

The Old Gaiety "Atmosphere."

Mr. Seymour Hicks is, by means of his strenuous rehearsals and happy memories of the good old George Edwardes days, undoubtedly re-imparting much of the old Gaiety's artistic and cheery "atmosphere" to the revised version of "The Shop Girl." The librettic revisions and additions by Arthur Wimperis and the new compositions of Herman Darewski, seemed to be "shaping" splendidly, besides blending well with the book by the late H. J. W. Dam, and the also wisely saved original numbers by Ivan Caryll and Lionel Monckton.

The New "Shop" Walkers.

The principal characters in the new version of "The Shop Girl," as compared with the original, are as follows:—Roy Royston (for Seymour Hicks), Ewart Scott (for George Grossmith—then G. G., junior), Johnny Danvers (for the late Arthur Williams), Percy Le Fre (for Willie Warde, who is assisting in this production), May Beatty (for the late Lillie Belmore), Mamie Watson (for the late Katie Seymour), Stanley Lupino (for the late "Teddy" Payne), Rosie Campbell (for Topsy Sinden), and Evelyn Laye (for Ellaline Terriss).

Robert Nainby is the only member of the original cast, and will play his original part. Thorpe Bates is engaged to play a part which has been "written in."

Arts League of Service D.C.

The Arts League of Service Dramatic Company began its spring tour on Monday at the village of Nettlebed, in Oxfordshire. The company travels by motor and carries with it a fit-up theatre, lighting and curtains, which enables performances to be given in small and inaccessible villages. The programme will consist of folk-songs, dances by pupils of Miss Margaret Morris, and one-act plays, including "The Land of Heart's Desire," by W. B. Yeats; "The Price of Coal" and "Lonesome-Like," by Harold Brighouse; and "Postal Orders," by Roland Pertwee.

Performances will be given in fourteen villages in Oxfordshire, after which the company will visit Worcestershire. During the spring and summer the company will tour the southern counties, and in the autumn the Midland districts, and possibly Scotland will be visited. The company includes Angela and Hermione Baddeley, Eleanor Elder, Agnes Lowson, Peter Taylor-Smith, Charles Thomas, J. Cranstoun Nevill and Judith Wogan.

Daly's Theatre Sale.

Although Daly's Theatre has now been sold to Mr. Millionaire James White, acting on behalf of the Beecham Trust, there need be no apprehension as to any sudden or drastic change of policy at that famous house. "The Era" is authoritatively informed that Mr. Robert Evett, who has worked so long and so loyally for the family and executors of his old "guv'nor," the late Mr. George Edwardes, will continue to rule that theatre.

Moreover, in due course Mr. Evett will produce the several plays which we have from time to time announced in these columns.

"Bobbie" Burns Dramatised.

A rumour reaches us that one of our very leading actor-managers is thinking of appearing as the wayward but wonderful poet, Robert Burns, in a new play written around that fascinating figure. Some time before his death, Sir George Alexander—a wonderful enthusiast concerning "Bobbie" and a collector of all sorts of Burns' books—arranged to have a play written for him around this bard, by H. Chance Newton, another enthusiastic Burnsian, who made considerable progress with the play. Sir George's lamented death of course prevented this project—as far as he was concerned—but Mr. Chance Newton will doubtless finish the play for another leading actor.

The Martin Harvey Tour.

Mr. Martin Harvey, Miss N. de Silva and their company made a most auspicious start of the spring tour last week at Middlesbro', where audiences crowded the Grand Opera House all week to enjoy the famous actor's performances. This week the Glasgow King's is being visited, and, as usual, in Glasgow, where Mr Martin Harvey enjoys enormous popularity, business has been simply "capacity."

Miss N. de Silva (Mrs. Martin Harvey), we regret to learn, was indisposed and unable to appear during the greater part of the Middlesbro' week. Happily the popular actress had sufficiently recovered by Friday, and was able to appear as Ophelia. In the earlier portion of the week Miss N. de Silva's parts were played—and played most creditably—by Miss Mary Gray (Mrs. Frank B. O'Neill).

On Thursday of next week, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey are to give a special matinée of "The Burgomaster of Stilemonde" at the Lyceum, Edinburgh, in aid of the Nurses' Fund to provide cottage homes for nurses broken in the war.

Queen of the Drama.

Miss Ellen Terry celebrated her 72nd birthday on Friday, at her picturesque old house at Chelsea, which was transformed into a bower of daffodils, sent by countless admirers. She received hundreds of telegrams of congratulation, including one from the Princess Royal. A message which pleased her very much came from the old stage-door keeper at the Lyric Theatre. An event of the day was the taking of a family photograph, four generations of the family being grouped round Miss Terry and photographed. It was the first time they had all been taken together.

Sir Charles Santley.

Another distinguished artist who celebrated his birthday last week is Sir Charles Santley, who was 86 on Saturday. The career of the greatest English baritone of his time began at the Crystal Palace in 1857.

John Sargent's 70th Birthday.

Another septuagenarian actor is Mr. John Sargent, who reached his 70th birthday on Monday. He was on the stage 52 years, and the story of his life is embodied in a booklet which he is issuing at 1s. Mr. Sargent writes in interesting and delightfully discursive fashion, and relates experiences with well-known stars of the past.

His first appearance as a professional actor was made at the Woolwich Theatre. It was a saddening experience for the youthful Thespian, but Mr. Sargent lived to see his fame perpetuated by an inscription on a barber's chair, kept in the saloon of the same theatre, which recorded that it was the chair used by Jack Sargent during his many performances as Sweeney Todd.

Opera at Liverpool.

The feature of the Kelly-Phillips-Rosa opera season at the Liverpool Shakespeare just now is the revival of Isidore de Lara's delightful opera, "Amy Robsart." Mersey-side interest in the event is great.

"Rose of Araby."

The new comic opera, "Rose of Araby," which was produced by Mr. Frederick G. Lloyd a fortnight ago at Wimbledon, achieved immense popularity at Swindon Empire, playing to capacity each night as soon as its quality became known. The company open at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on Monday next, preparatory to a season at a West End theatre.

"Jones."

"Jones" is the simple straightforward name of a new play written by Frank Herbert, and secured for production by Manager Herbert Jay. Among other pieces acquired by Mr. Jay are a new historical drama by Keble Howard; a new comedy called "The Seamaid," by Robert Macdonald; the some-time touring "Skittles," by Lechmere Worrall and Arthur Rose; and that long-long-pending American dramatisation of Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island."

Percy Hutchison in Canada.

A record-breaking tour is still being pursued in Canada by Mr. Percy Hutchison, but not without certain discomforts. On one journey the cold was so intense that the train could not proceed, the steam freezing, and icicles forming beneath the carriages. Fires had to be lighted to thaw the pipes. All the male members of the company are clothed in fur coats, and have got to be known as "The Hearthrug Brigade."

The Independent Theatre.

The Independent Theatre has resumed its activities, and the first performance of its new season will be given on Sunday, March 21, at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. The programme will comprise "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets," by Bernard Shaw; "The Glittering Gate," by Lord Dunsany; "Et Puis Bonsoir," a mime play, by Ruby Ginner. The cast of the first two plays will include Milton Rosmer, Suzanne Sheldon, Mona Limerick, Gordon Bailey, Allan Jeayes, Hector Abbas, and Arthur Phillips.

The Art Theatre.

The Art Theatre's fourth production will be "The Three Sisters" of Anton Chekhov, which will be given at the Court Theatre on Sunday evening next at 8.15, and repeated the following afternoon at 2.30. The cast includes Margery Bryce, Madeline Clayton, Dorothy Massingham, Helena Millais, Irene Rathbone, William Armstrong, Leyton Cancellor, Joseph A. Dodd, Tom Nesbitt, Ernest Thesiger, Ernest Warburton, and Harcourt Williams, and the play will be produced by Mme. Donnet.

"Romance of the Rosary."

Mr. Herbert Shelley produced his latest play, "The Romance of the Rosary," at the Theatre Royal, South Shields, on Monday, and reports that it is "a brilliant triumph." Good! Unfortunately the limitations of the postal service compel us to hold over our correspondent's notice till next week.

"The Rotters" for the Road.

Mr. Arthur Gibbons speeds "The Rotters" on its way by motor-lorry on Sunday next, the company starting from his office in King-street. The scenery will be carried in an elaborate van decorated with the title of the play, and a smaller car will carry the members of the company.

The Criterion Theatre.

Mr. Henry Tweedie will represent Mr. Thos. C. Dagnall at the Criterion Theatre during the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Dagnall and Mr. Sidney Blow (part-author of "Lord Richard in the Pantry"), who are making a business trip to America. They leave Southampton on the White Star liner Adriatic to-day (Wednesday).

The Academy of Dramatic Art.

The programme of the matinée which will be given by the Academy of Dramatic Art on Tuesday, March 30, at the St. James's Theatre, will include the first act of "The Amazons," produced by Mr. Dion Boucicault. Sir Johnston Forbes-Robertson, Mr. Ainley, and Lady Tree will act as judges for awarding the Bancroft Gold Medal. Messrs. Vedrenne and Vernon will give a special prize of one year's engagement in London.

In addition to the usual curriculum, Mr. Ainley, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and Miss Hilda Trevelyan have given courses of special rehearsals, and Mr. William Archer has lectured during the term. Mr. Arthur Whitby and Miss Kate Cutler have rejoined the regular staff. The terminal scholarships have been judged and awarded by Miss Winifred Emery, Miss Fay Davis, Mr. Owen Nares, and Mr. Herbert Waring.

Jurisdiction Over Juveniles.

The jurisdiction over children of school age engaged in stage performances has again been in question at Birmingham. When the magistrates were applied to on Friday for a licence authorising the appearance of three children under 14 years of age in "Our Peg" at the Prince of Wales Theatre, they granted a licence running from 9 to 10 each evening, but declined to exercise any authority in regard to matinées. They held that the employment of children for day performances was regulated by the Education Acts, and so fell within the administration of the local authority.

A "Sunshine" Change.

We are sorry to learn, through Messrs. Norris and Clayton, that Miss Clara Symons has been compelled to relinquish her part in "The Sunshine of the World" at the Empire owing to an attack of laryngitis. Her medical adviser has stated that it will be impossible for her to resume her engagements for a month or two. The part is now being played by Miss Nancy Gibbs.

Miss Gibbs scored a big success, and was obliged to appear before the curtain to acknowledge the applause aroused by her clever and artistic performance. Messrs. Norris and Clayton are to be congratulated upon being able to find so worthy a successor at such short notice.

"Society, Ltd."

At the end of the run of "When Knights Were Bold," at the Scala, Mr. Bromley Challenor will present the Adelphi Enterprises' production, "Society, Ltd.," a new musical play, in three acts, the book and lyrics of which are by Mr. Arthur Branscombe and the music by Mr. Arthur Carrington. The play foretells the possible complications which may arise in certain aristocratic quarters should the Labour Party assume the reins of government.

Glasgow Metropole Manager.

The directors of the Metropole Theatre, Glasgow, have given public expression to their appreciation of the "loyal and faithful service" rendered to the company by the late Mr. Amand Mascard, whose recent death they—in common with his many friends, Met. patrons and staff—deeply deplore. Briefly summed up, he was earnest and sincere in his work and honourable in all his dealings. They also intimate that they have, through the managing director, Mr. Arthur Jefferson, engaged the services of Mr. John A. Walker, who so successfully managed—amongst several others—the New Century Theatre, Motherwell.

Mr. A. Cyril Mascard, son of the former manager, has been appointed assistant manager under Mr. Walker.

A Cast of Two.

Arrangements are being made by Miss Violet Melnotte to present at a series of matinées at a West End theatre a stirring drama, entitled "Sinners Both," from the pen of Mr. Herbert Thomas, who wrote the successful melodrama, "Out of Hell." It is in four acts, contains but two characters, and "plays" for two hours. Miss Frances Ivor and the author appear as the principals.

The Duke of York's.

Mr. James Bernard Fagan has obtained the Duke of York's Theatre from Monday, March 8, and will present there "The Merchant of Venice," which commenced at the Court, and afterwards went to the Kennington. Maurice Moscovitch, the famous Russian actor, will be seen in his fine impersonation of Shylock, and Miss Mary Grey, after her recent illness, will resume her part of Portia.

In the afternoons, at the Duke of York's, M. Comisarjevsky, late director of the Moscow Theatre, along with M. Rosing, will give a series of matinées on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, commencing on March 9. The first production will be two picturesque ballets, "A Fisherman's Love," music by Grieg, and "The Musical Box," by Liadoff. Miss Phyllis Bedells and Novikoff will appear.

LICENSING MANAGERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—There have been various opinions advanced for or against the validity of seeking Parliamentary aid to improve the conditions of theatrical life by forcing managers to be licensed by the County Council or some such authority, but up to the present the question seems to be approached only from the view-point of either manager or actor.

Mr. Gibbons protests quite rightly against the necessity for such a Bill, but he takes the attitude of an apologist for the manager, as if the case against the manager had been completely established. What new statistics have been compiled, and by whom, to prove that the theatrical profession has got into such a dishonest and immoral condition that it has become necessary to penalise a theatrical employer in a way that no one would dare suggest applying to the butcher, baker, or candlestick maker? Is the employer in every other business to be licensed because he is open to exactly the same charges? For dishonesty or immorality are not found only on the stage.

Has the Theatrical Managers' Association or the Touring Managers' Association been aware of this sudden lapse from the paths of virtue by the rank and file of their members, and if so, are they not quite competent to deal with it?

In your last issue Mr. Forbes, dealing with the actors' view-point, also seems to think the only solution of the difficulty of keeping our profession in the straight and narrow way is to have a Parliamentary warrant to squash the evil-doer. But is laxity entirely a managerial sin? Mea culpa—we are none of us perfect. No actor or actress of 10 years' experience has any doubts as to the good and bad in our profession, but is it worse in any way than any other profession—either for morals or righteousness? It is not. We can hold our own for a decent standard of living with any other business at which people earn their living. Why should the stage be open to attack from every muckraker that chances to want notoriety? Because we take it lying down. Because we haven't grown out of that old feeling that we are still vagabonds because ignorant people like to imagine we are. Because we lack the courage to claim our place in the life of the nation.

But why this sudden belief that a licence will produce managers with all the seven deadly virtues? With licensed public-houses people get drunk, and if you pay your dog licence, may he not get rabies? What Act of Parliament ever did more than use a drag-net, with a very wide net, through which the slim and wealthy slip?—and your reel of cotton costs tenpence.

If the managers are so bad, how is it they get actors to work for them? If obscene plays are produced, who produces them? Are they performed in licensed theatres? If so, what are the licensing authorities doing? Where is the Censor? He ought to be up and doing. Why do the various managerial associations allow bogus managers to exist? They can put them out of business if they want to. Why does the resident manager give dates to unknown or unreliable speculating touring managers?

Dishonesty can only continue if it is condoned by others. Immorality can only exist by the tacit agreement of all concerned.

If our profession is in such hopeless condition that it must be saddled by further restrictions, why suppose that a Bill in Parliament will produce better results than a Whitley Council of the various branches of professions? One would think that the experience of the last five years would have scared any sane person from asking for more departmental interference, with further establishment of boards of officials, delaying business in their endeavours to hold their job down.

If we are in such a condition that we cannot control our own means of livelihood, why expect the State or Church to do it for us?

If the theatrical profession needs reformation, the best people to do it are those connected with it, whose personal responsibility it is if the conditions are not what they should be.

And the English stage has never been lacking in persons of intelligence and sense of public duty to be ready to undertake such work. Our profession is struggling in the middle of barbed wire entanglements from all sorts of faddists. If our house isn't tidy, let us do our own chores. It will pay best in the long run.—Yours faithfully,

W. G. FAY.

Feb. 27, 1920.

Sale of Bram Stoker Collection.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge announce a three days' sale by auction of valuable autograph letters and historical documents on March 10, 11, and 12. The catalogue includes a collection of Irvingiana formed by the late Mr. Bram Stoker, who was the famous actor's manager, and most intimate associate from 1878 to 1905. In addition to a number of framed pictures, there are a terra-cotta bust of Irving by E. Onslow Ford, and a bronze medallion by John E. Blackwell, mounted on marble. A great part of the collection has been mounted, and is contained in thirty-four strapped portfolios. It is particularly rich in rare and early playbills and programmes, including those of the first appearance of Irving and of Ellen Terry; others used on occasions when Royalty was present and at the performances given at Sandringham and Windsor Castle.

The Regulation of Theatre Queues.

The Portsmouth Watch Committee have found that to police the town adequately, the full strength of the force must be employed upon street duty and ordinary police work, and notice is to be given to the proprietors of those theatres where such constables are engaged in regulating the queue that they will be withdrawn. At the next meeting of the Watch Committee a scheme will probably be devised for supplying suitable men for these special purposes upon a new basis. It is suggested that the system of booking seats at theatres should be extended, and that, as far as possible, queues should be abolished.

Folk Plays in the Parks.

As a preliminary step towards the League of Arts' undertakings this summer, Mr. Patrick Kirwan will give a lecture on "The Folk Plays of Old England" in the King George's Hall, Central Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court-road, to-morrow (Thursday), at 8 p.m.

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A few opinions from popular people.

Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." **Mr. WILL EVANS,** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it."

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

NEW COUNCIL'S FIRST MEETING.

The newly elected Council of the Actors' Association met on Friday, Feb. 27, when there were present: Norman McKinnel (chairman), Miss I. Beresford, Miss J. Black, E. Story-Gofton, Edmond Beresford, Thorpe Bates, Ben Webster, Bertram Wallis, Robert Michaelis, F. Harker, C. Austin-Lee, Miss L. Braithwaite, G. Tully, F. E. Petley, Miss E. Griffes, Miss L. Coleman, S. Wentworth, F. Dennis, J. Fisher White, A. Stewart, A. Harding Steerman, H. Oscar, C. V. France, F. B. J. Sharp, Mrs. S. Raleigh, H. Vibart, C. Rean, L. Forster, H. Wright, F. Macrae, and Alfred Lugg (secretary).

The minutes of the meeting of Feb. 20 were read by the secretary.

A vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of Mr. Lyston-Lyle.

The report of the Ways and Means Committee was read by Mr. Henry Vibart.

The confirmation of the present trustees, solicitors, bankers, and auditors. This was proposed by Mr. F. B. J. Sharp, seconded by Mr. C. V. France, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Lugg read nominations for officers received.

Mr. F. B. J. Sharp proposed and Mr. A. Harding Steerman seconded that Mrs. Raleigh and Mr. Henry Oscar be elected scrutineers. Carried unanimously.

Sub-committees.

The Chairman said that, subject to the approval of the Council, the number of sub-committee would be appointed.

The Chairman's Committee would deal with standing orders, general policy of the Association, etc. It was very necessary in his opinion that there should be a committee entrusted by the Council to act immediately in any emergency. Mr. Stephen Wentworth proposed, and Mr. Athole Stewart seconded, that the chairman of each sub-committee be on the Chairman's Committee. Carried unanimously.

The following committees were appointed: Legal.—Mr. Luke Forster, Mr. Clifford Rean, Mr. F. B. J. Sharp, Mr. Alfred Goddard, Mr. Dawson Milward, Mr. C. V. France, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Sydney Paxton.

Rules.—Mr. Story Gofton, Miss Gladys Ffolliott, Mr. Frank Petley, Miss Madge McIntosh, Mr. A. Harding Steerman, Mr. Robert Michaelis, Mr. Bertram Wallis.

Ways and Means (to deal with questions of finance, salaries, staff, and death levy).—Miss E. Griffes, Miss Lilian Braithwaite, Miss I. Beresford, Mr. Henry Vibart, Mr. Huntley Wright, Mr. J. Fisher White, Mr. Macrae.

Agency.—Mr. E. Hendrie, Mr. A. Harker, Mr. E. Beresford, Mr. F. Leslie, Mr. F. Wright, Mr. A. Stewart, Miss L. Sibley, Miss J. Black.

Nominations.—Miss L. Coleman, Miss P. Broughton, Miss H. Gunn, Mrs. Raleigh, Mr. Oscar, Mr. Scott Leighton, Mr. F. Dennis, Mr. S. Wentworth.

Trade Union Congress.

Mr. Lugg and Mr. A. Stewart were instructed to attend the Congress to be held on March 11. Mr. Oscar consented to attend in the event of Mr. Stewart being unable to go.

The report of the Nominations Committee was read by Miss Lisa Coleman.

SWEETMEATS IN THEATRES.

THEATRICAL MANAGERS' PROTEST.

The still-existing restrictions regarding the sale of sweets in places of amusement were made the subject of a question in the House of Commons on Saturday, when Mr. A. Baldwin Raper, M.P. for East Islington, asked the Home Secretary for what purpose the restrictions regarding the hours of sale of sweetmeats, &c., were still enforced in theatres, music halls, &c.?

Mr. Shortt replied: The restrictions have not been withdrawn up to the present, because very strong representations have been made to me by the confectioners against the proposal to withdraw them. The matter requires to be very carefully considered before a decision can be taken.

Meanwhile, in view of the fact that the Bill in which the restrictions are contained was to be discussed in Parliament on Monday, the secretary of the Theatrical Managers' Association addressed the following letter to nearly 400 managers of theatres and music halls all over the kingdom:—

"52, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. 1.
"Feb. 27, 1920.

"Dear Sir,—The War Emergency Laws (Continuance) Bill, which seeks to empower the Government to continue in force certain provisions and regulations of D.O.R.A., including the power to prohibit the sale of sweetmeats and chocolates in theatres and other places of public entertainment after 8 p.m. (Saturdays 9 p.m.), will be before the House of Commons on Monday next, March 1.

"I am desired to ask you to write immediately to your local member of Parliament at the House of Commons (or elsewhere you may be sure of its reaching him immediately), and any other M.P. you may know, asking him to support the following amendment, which will be moved by Capt. Bowyer, supported by other members.

"I have put the amendment at foot hereof so that, if desired, you can detach it to send with your letter.—Yours faithfully,

"H. W. ROWLAND
"Secretary."

WAR EMERGENCY LAWS (CONTINUANCE) BILL.

Amendment by Capt. Bowyer and other members to be moved in the House of Commons on Monday, March 1, 1920.

Capt. Bowyer:—

Schedule 2, page 10, line 45, column 3, insert:—

"Except that sweets, chocolates, or other sugar confectionery may be sold in the auditorium and refreshment rooms of a theatre or other place of public entertainment to bona fide members of the audience during such time as they are open for public entertainment, and for consumption on the premises."

Unfortunately the amendment was not put, the Speaker ruling that time would not permit of its discussion. A large number of M.P.s had signified to Capt. Bowyer their intention of supporting his amendment.

Miss Theo. Cotterill.

At the Opera House, Coventry, this week that successful musical comedy, "Yes, Uncle," is paying a return visit. Miss Theo. Cotterill as the Widow is playing a part she has now sustained for three seasons with Mr. Geo. Dance's company.

Indian Plays in English.

The Union of East and West is giving a special performance in English of two Indian plays by Rabindranath Tagore at the Wigmore Hall, W., on Saturday, March 6, at 8.30 p.m. One is called "Autumn Festival," a short play with music, the other is "The Post Office," an allegorical play. Renee Mayer will play the leading part in the latter.

Pantomime in March.

Mr. Rich, Waldon's panto., "Tom Thumb," at the Princess's, Glasgow, continues to run merrily, though produced early in December. It is still some weeks short of the record run at this "home of pantomime."

The Old Vic.

Shakespeare will be suspended at the Old Vic. for a fortnight in order to make room for "The Rivals," which will be played on Monday, Wednesday and Friday next at 7.30, on Thursday at 2, on Saturday at 2.30, and at a Special School Matinée at 2. The second performance of "Everyman" will take place on Tuesday afternoon.

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THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

A STAFFORDSHIRE VIOLINIST.

Albert Lloyd, of Stafford, can justly claim to be a strong factor in helping to make popular song numbers which lend themselves to solo items for the violin. Mr. Lloyd has been a resident of Stafford for many years, and his orchestra is famous throughout the district, being engaged for all the principal civic and social functions, at each programme of which he has to give five or six violin solos. He generally treats his audience to a superb rendering of two or three song numbers that are universal favourites. Before devoting the whole of his time to concerts, receptions, and dances he was from 1902 to 1914 musical director at the Playhouse and Lyceum Theatres, and 1915 and 1916 at the Picture House, Stafford.

A WELL-KNOWN BANDMASTER.

Samuel Dodwell (the composer of "Choristers" and other successful waltzes), who, at the suggestion of his publishers, adopted the name of Bernard Phelps, has had a very long experience of practical music, as he joined the Coldstream Guards' band under Fred Godfrey in 1875 at the age of fourteen. After twelve years with this famous regiment he was appointed bandmaster of the West London Rifles, and afterwards of the London Rifle Brigade.

For many years now he has run his own orchestras, which have played at numerous dances, concerts, and receptions. At the present time he is bandmaster of the Y Division of Police Military Band, and in addition is responsible for all musical arrangements of the Kensington (Princess Louise) Battalion London Regt., who are having a reunion at the Holborn Restaurant on the 9th inst. Dodwell and his band will be an important feature in the evening's programme.

GAINSBOROUGH LADIES' ORCHESTRAS.

The famous orchestras bearing the above name, and which delight thousands of listeners daily in the great emporiums and hotels, as well as during the summer in the coast towns, were initiated by Miss Doris Hallerton. Nowadays shopping in the great centres has become a fine art, and amid the luxurious surroundings of London's vast establishments, a high-class orchestra has become almost as necessary as the palatial buildings themselves, and it is no exaggeration to say that the Gainsborough Orchestras play to something like 20,000 people weekly.

The first Gainsborough Orchestra, consisting of five first-class lady instrumentalists, and Miss Doris Hallerton as flautiste, was introduced to the public through the directors of William Whiteley, and daily the great central dome in the famous Bayswater establishment is thronged by an audience numbering well over a thousand, listening to a varied and well arranged programme, consisting of the works of the great masters as well as selections, suites, waltzes, and the popular one-steps and fox trots of the day.

The introduction of a second orchestra took place at Barker's, of Kensington, and here, in the afternoon tea salon as well as in the luncheon rooms, the Gainsborough Quintette discourse music to several thousands weekly, who might otherwise find no time to attend concerts. Another very fine orchestra can also be heard every afternoon in "Barnes'" New Restaurant, Pinchley-road, and in several lounges of some of the principal hotels in London the "Gainsborough" Orchestras can be found. During the summer months they are engaged at Cowes, Margate, Westcliff-on-Sea, and other popular watering places.

Mr. Hallerton Shaw, Miss Doris Hallerton's husband and business director, who comes from the Land o' Burns, is right when he asserts that England must be a dominant power in the world of music. The Gainsborough Orchestras are showing the way to rouse the popular spirit; that accomplished, the rest is easy.

Margate's New Musical Director.

Mr. G. B. Robinson has resigned his position as musical director of the Pump Room Orchestra, Bath, on obtaining the appointment of musical director to the Margate Corporation. The Bath Corporation has allowed Mr. Robinson to take the last Saturday of the Pump Room season for his farewell benefit concert.

CONCERT PARTY NOTES.

Concert Platform as Training Ground—The Search for Talent—The Male-Voice Quartet.

The "discovery" of Randolph Sutton confirms our oft-repeated opinion that there is no finer training ground than the concert platform, for its wide range of experiences through which the beginner must pass fit him for almost any post. The concert humorist's career from start to finish is not a "bed of roses"—many find it more resembles an "overgrowth of thistles"!

After a varied experience as a "semi-pro," the ambitious artist forsakes his office for ever, and after much difficulty negotiates a booking with a party, only to find that a concert party artist to be successful is expected to act like Beerbohm Tree, dance like a member of the Russian ballet, sing tenor or bass-line in quartettes, and all this in addition to making a slow audience, on wet as well as fine days, rock with laughter!

Recruits to Variety.

Even in the case of vocalists, to be successful in concert party work they must be able to dance, or move gracefully in concerteds, take a share in comedy skits, and occasionally act—surely a most excellent training for musical comedy work.

Is it any wonder, therefore, that our most successful musical comedy and revue artists come from the concert ranks—among them Leslie Henson, W. H. Berry, Jimmy Godden, Morris Harvey, and a host of others—and if London managers are really in search of talent and versatility, let them do a round of the leading seaside resorts this summer and see the principal concert party artists—they will make many "finds."

Muriel George and Ernest Butcher.

We congratulate these two representatives of the concert world, who after giving a most successful account of their ability at the Coliseum are this week topping the bill—and a powerful one at that—at the Wood Green Empire. Experience of what is required of them has even improved their always clever act.

The Burlington Quartette.

The male voice quartette is not so frequently heard as it used to be in concert circles, probably because bookings do not often justify four artists keeping themselves reserved specially for it, and if members accept separate bookings it usually transpires that one or the other is engaged when quartette bookings come in. This is doubtless the reason why the Greshams and many others find vaudeville work much more suitable, but the concert world still retains those excellent four—the Burlington Quartette. They are a well-balanced combination of exceptionally good blending voices, and handle classical and light humorous numbers with equal facility and success.

C.A.B.A. AT HOME.

In a lengthy programme comprising twenty-seven items, at the Concert Artists' Benevolent Association At Home at St. George's Hall, on Feb. 22, no fewer than twenty-four were newcomers to the Association. On the whole the entertainment was an excellent one. The only soprano on the list, Miss Mabel Watson, sang "Garden of Happiness" very charmingly, whilst Miss Lily Silver used a pleasant mezzo voice with plenty of distinction, and Miss Isabel Guidici, a mellow contralto, gave a very good account of herself in that picturesque song, "Melisande in the Wood." Mr. Rowland Edwards gave a rousing rendering of "Glorious Devon," and another baritone to shine was Mr. Alex. Farmer, whilst Mr. Ernest H. Hoddinott sang "This is the Song For You" very well, although obviously hampered by a cold. Mr. Alan Johnstone (an old member) has a robust voice, which he turned to good account in "Son of Mine," and the other artist to score well in the tenor department was Mr. Duncan McGruer. Two very competent bass singers, Mr. Harry Ward-Jackson and Mr. J. G. Palmer, completed the list of solo vocalists.

One of the successes of the evening was scored by Miss Margaret Briden and Mr. Herbert Williams in their vocal duets, and we do not remember to have heard "Annie Laurie" sung so well before. Mr. Jack Rickards and Miss Violet Stevens provided vocal duets of the humorous variety, and Mr. Middleton Woods created plenty of amusement with an entertaining song entitled "Noah's Ark." Mr. Clifford Warren has also provided himself with a capital comedy number, "Safety First," and other entertainers to acquit themselves honourably were Miss Violet Almee, Mr. Francis Fenton, the Lestrelles (Lily and Madge), and Mr. Eric Ross and Miss Gwen Alban, the latter with a cleverly-written "telephone" song. Miss Adelina A. Levey told stories in her own particularly delightful manner, and plenty of success as a monologist was scored by Miss Stella Hackman.

Instrumental items were provided by Miss Lilian Brion and Mr. Lawrie O'Beirne, violinists, and Mr. Frederick Lennard, hand-bell soloist, whilst considerable variety was lent to the programme by Mr. Cecil Douglas's impersonations and character studies. Two new accompanists, Miss Hetty Bolron and Miss Marjorie Hare, and one old one, Mr. Dudley Vincent, capably fulfilled the onerous duties.

The breezy chairman, Mr. John Humphreys, made an eloquent appeal for funds, to which we feel sure there was a good response when the usual silver collection was made. During the evening the New Barnet (Victoria Hall) Orchestra proved to be a capable body of instrumentalists.

A £200 MUSIC PRIZE.

Messrs. Chappell and Co. are offering a prize of £200 for a light suite for orchestra. The composer must be British born, and the suite must not have been performed previously at any public concert. It is to consist of three short movements, the whole suite not to take more than from 15min. to 18min. in performance.

Manuscripts are to be delivered c/o Chappell and Co., Ltd., not later than June 1 next, and marked "Suite for Prize Competition." Sir Henry J. Wood, Mr. Landon Ronald, and Mr. Alick Maclean have consented to act as judges.

"Bubbles."

At the Anglesey Palace, Burton-on-Trent, this week Will Gane and Cecil Moreley's "Bubbles" are the attraction. Good houses every night are assured.

ENTERTAINMENTS IN HOSPITAL.

The entertainment at the Cancer Hospital (Free), Fulham-road, on the 13th inst., wa sorganised by Mrs. Leslie Badcock, who had gathered around her a goodly array of artists. Prominent among these were Miss Adelina Levey and Mme. Carlotta Fagette, both presenting works from the pen of the versatile Mr. Sivori Levey. Miss Levey came in, as usual, for a huge reception, and her attractive renderings of humorous stories were enthusiastically received. So, too, with Mme. Fagette, whose songs at the piano were greatly enjoyed. Other artists to distinguish themselves were Miss Dorothy Green, a dainty and diminutive dancer; Mr. Giles Collins, with his character-impersonations from well-known plays, and Mr. Roland Lewis, who was encored for his finished singing of Stephen Adams "Nirvana." Mr. H. A. Godson Bohn, who stage-managed, supplied several humorous songs; Miss Fifi Gordon proved herself to be a chic and dainty singer and dancer. Pianoforte selections were provided by Miss Maidie Jellis, A.R.A.M., Miss Norah Green and Mr. Frank H. Reynolds. An unusual but attractive item was provided by Mr. Alfred Wright with his solos on the "bones," and Mrs. Leslie Badcock herself delighted everyone with some well-delivered recitations. The remainder of the programme was provided by a bright little concert party, "The Queries in a Hurry," under the direction of Mr. Phillip Harland.

Manchester Operatic Amateurs.

The St. Margaret's Amateur Operatic Society, Manchester, celebrated their tenth season by four performances last week of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "The Gondoliers," which was staged in St. Edmund's Hall, and played to packed audiences. Excellent singing by Mrs. G. P. Wood (Gianetta), Mrs. C. A. Seddon (Casilda), Mr. W. Stark (Marco), and clever acting by Mrs. Frank Crabb (Tessa) and Miss A. Rimmer (the duchess) were the outstanding features of a fine show, in which the chorus were more than usually competent and well trained.

Author-Composers' Bureau.

Mr. Robert A. E. Masters, Manager of the Author-Composers' Bureau, Great Russell-street, informs us that, owing to the success in their special "writing" department for artists' material, the A.-C.B. cannot accept further commissions until the end of April. The popularity of Charles Cardow, the well-known writer, who is so ably assisted by the new composer, Dennis E. Courtney, is thus proved. Artists who call at 104, Great Russell-street are assured of finding real winners.

For Violoncellists.

West's publish a new "Romance" for violoncello and pianoforte, by Charles T. Heaviside. The melody for the solo instrument is so graceful and so well written that the piece should prove an attractive addition to the violoncellist's concert repertoire.

Pabbie Benstead.

Having recently concluded a successful tour with "As You Were," Pabbie Benstead, the Autstralian soubrette, will rejoin the Moonshine Concert Party on the 29th. inst. at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne. Miss Benstead, it will be remembered, was a great favourite with this company last season.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

CENTRAL HALL CONCERT.

The Westminster Singers—Messrs. Edward Way, Wilfred Kearton, Bertram Mills, and W. H. Brereton—made one of their all-too-rare appearances at Central Hall on Saturday night. The audience made the most of them. They were down in the first part for two numbers—Bishop's "The Foresters," with delightful dying-away echo effects, and W. Kearton's plantation serenade, "Ma Dinkie White Canoe," for alto solo (Mr. Way) and vocal accompaniment—and had to add another two, one of them a diverting banjo-imitation affair. Everything the Westminster quartette do is done to perfection. Their tone, balance, and quality are a joy to sensitive ears, and their enunciation could not be more admirably clear.

Miss Annie Rees, of the fresh, youthful soprano, a great favourite at Westminster, was heard in, among other things, A. Meale's "Coming to You," and in another song of his—a merry one—about "Jolly Little Love." Mr. Ivor Walters, the evening's solo tenor, has a manly and most musical voice, and is, besides, a clever singer with an unfailing sense of the value of climax. And his climaxes always come where they should, on the closing phrases of the song. Mr. Samuel Dyson, a dramatic baritone, was particularly successful in Hahn's fine "Invictus." The popular violinist, Miss Eva Evalda, so pleased by her vivacious playing of old operatic and ballad melodies that she was rewarded with a request for a double encore. A like honour fell to Mr. J. A. Meale, whose eagerly looked for organ solos, including the apparently inevitable "Storm," were, of course, in their usual place on the programme—without them a Central Hall concert would indeed be shorn of much of its attractiveness. Mr. Fred Rome and Miss Marion Ruth's "Cameo Conversations," which went to an accompaniment of rippling mirth, provided the entertainment with the necessary humorous seasoning.

CONCERT PARTIES A T WORK

The Seven Nobodies.

Mr. Harry Leslie's vaudeville company, "The Seven Nobodies," appeared last week at the Spa Opera House, Bridlington, under the direction of Mr. Charles Wade. The artists include Harrington Weeks, comedian; Mabel Leslie, soubrette and monologue artist; Jean Beauchamp, operatic soprano; Peggy James, comedienne; Ivan Grey, comedian; Bert Mellor, pianist, and Charles Wade, the famous London baritone.

Sunday Concert at Leicester.

Mr. Milton Bode kindly gave permission for the use of the Royal Opera House, Leicester, for a charity concert on behalf of the funds of the Wycliffe Society for Helping the Blind, a most deserving institution, whose funds will greatly benefit as the result. The De Montfort Orchestra, a very popular combination, under the conductorship of Mr. G. R. Tebbs, rendered a number of selections, with their usual success. The vocalists were Miss Louise Martin, soprano; Mr. Godfrey Lant, tenor; and Mr. Fred Reeves, baritone, all of whose items gave the greatest satisfaction.

The Supremacy.

Rightly described as a unique combination, the Supremacy Concert Party is doing well on the Leas Pavilion, Folkestone. The programmes are both dainty and gay, with admirable touches of refined humour, and the artists have continuously to respond to encores.

The Summits.

At the Winter Hall Corporation Concert, Leamington Spa, Mr. Albert Lyon presents The Summits. A good show, featuring Mr. Albert Chidzey, L.R.A.M., at the piano, Messrs. Sam Rayne, Edwin Hoyle, and Albert Lyon, and Misses Blanche Hern, Ivy Westaby, and Margaret Stephens.

STRATFORD EMPIRE.

There was not available a single bookable seat when the band of the 1st Life Guards opened Sunday evening's concert of the N.S.L. at Stratford Empire on Sunday, and the tremendous audience enjoyed one of the best concerts given by the League at this popular rendezvous. Miss Dorothy Greene, an old favourite, opened the vocal items with an old but ever-welcome number, "Come Away at Break of Day," and among her encores was "Garden of Happiness." Later she sang the "Jewel Song" from "Faust," and was rapturously encored. Mr. Frank Webster pleased immensely with "Believe It Is True," and conceded a new little ballad by Vic Slater and also Cowen's "Awake, Beloved." Mr. Webster likewise "duetted" with Mr. Joseph Harrington, who himself had to respond with another item after giving a lively free rendering of "Nothing to Say." Miss Kathleen Burchell, the child-actress, won all hearts, especially with her extra turn, "Willie and James and Henry." Mr. Leonard Moon was the entertainer, and his easy entrance assured the audience of the presence of a front-ranker. He has an excellent voice which he knows how to use, and his stories are given with polished elocutionary effect, so that no point is lost. Probably his best song was "What I Am Fond Of I Like," and, while his stories were excellent, his recitation of a serious vein, "Blind Dobbin," was perhaps most appreciated. Mr. Moon had to entertain for over twenty minutes, and was awarded three calls.

The manager of these concerts, Mr. J. W. Lloyd, a veteran in League work, reports full houses every Sunday night, all seats being booked early in the week.

WHAT SEASIDE PITCHES FETCH.

Having had tenders from six or seven beach concert parties, the Bournemouth Corporation Beach Committee recommend acceptance of that of Messrs. Birchmore and Lindon at £215 for the pier concert pitch, and at £110 for the west concert pitch, for the season.

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HILARITY OF 1920	Harry Bright			
OPTIMISTS	Will Catlin		Grand, Evesham.	
SUMMITS	Albert Lyon		Town Hall, Sale.	
TOPICS	Scott & Reckie	Arcadia, Colwyn Bay.	Leamington.	
WITS, THE	Richard Jerome	Albert Hall, Stafford.		

* The charge for inserting date of next Vacancy in this column is 1/- per insertion prepaid.

THE CONCERT WORLD.

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Tenders giving full particulars and terms to be sent to me on or before Thursday, March 11, next.
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The Foreshore Committee
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The placing of Deck Chairs on the Promenade is in the nature of an experiment and will be governed by special regulations to be issued by the Corporation. The right to place such chairs will be subject to termination at any time during the season at 48 hours' notice to be given by the Corporation, in which event, a proportionate part only of the rent will be charged.
Separate offers must be submitted in respect of the Foreshore and Promenade, and persons tendering must state the number and kind of chairs they propose to use. Half the rent in respect of both the Foreshore and the Promenade will be payable on signing the Agreements to be prepared by the undersigned, and the other half not later than the 3rd August, 1920.
Tenders in sealed envelopes endorsed "Deck Chairs" should be in the hands of the undersigned not later than the first post on Monday the 15th March, 1920.
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Town Hall, J. ERNEST JARRATT, Southport, Town Clerk. 27th February, 1920.

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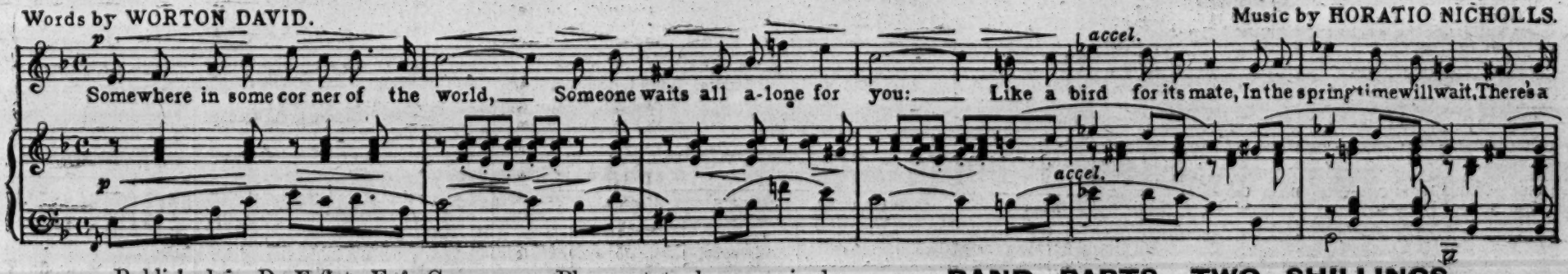
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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1920.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR MARCH 29 NOW DUE.

HARRY BAWN CIRCUIT.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—Jock Cromo's burlesque, "Behind the Scenes." 16 band parts required.

MILE END EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Decunas, Sisters Macarte, Talbot and Clare.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Ellis Barrieton.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Leslie Lynn presents "Smiling Faces."

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Fitz-Allen, Tina Paynola, La Bas Duo, Four Powers, Four Elmores.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—"The Plaything of an Hour."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Reliable Enterprises present "The Powder Girl."

PAISLEY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Johnson and Bert in "Crankite," Two

RAYMOND world Wandering With Witty Wizardisms.

Boyds, Clown Gaetano, Fredrica's Terriers, George Murphy, Navanna Troupe.

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—The Bassaralos, G. W. Fyvie.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY.—The Great Nesbitt, Elsie Carmela, Royal Kondo, The O'Shea, Gus Barri, Dan Graham.

OLYMPIA.—Harry Mears' "Babes in the Wood."

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE.—Lola Charm's "Aladdin."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—Horace Stanley's company, "From Pit to Parliament."

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See page 23).

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

(See page 17).

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Palmere's Circus, Ernie Whitmee, Tubby Turner, The Mackwells, Flo Dixie, Jock McKay, Yoga.

BRADFORD.—Lowdini, Tom Fox, Neville Delmar, The "Heathen," Kidd Love, Ida Long, Mary Liston.

BURNLEY.—Takio, Scott and Whaley, Estelle Rose, Ernest Mitchell, Zona and Milroy, Ben Beyer.

CARLISLE.—Orpheus, Bond Rowell, Four Kemptons, Frank and Vesta, Will Cummin and Co., McLean Twins, Harmony Four.

HALIFAX.—Charles Mildare, Tom Gott, Two Lillys, Jay Whidden, Myrtle and Pat, Morgan and Griffiths, Lee Latour.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Chris Van Bern, E. J. Huxter, Four Storks, Power and

RAYMOND Wonderful Wizard With Wit.

Beadon, Granville, Maude and Leigh, Connie Browning.

SOUTHAMPTON.—Dave Bryant, May Edouin, Mark Coney, Nelson Jackson, Ethel Goode, Violet Vanbrugh, Alfredo, Mewse and Singer.

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MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

(See page 21).

STOLL TOUR.

(See page 23).

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"As You Were."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Fred Ginnett and Co., Nella Allen, Knapp and Cornella, Ray Kay and Co., Carl Hertz, and company as booked.

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12).—"Hullo, America!"

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Nellie Wallace, Marie Novello Trio, Sherlock Sisters and Clinton, Jimmy Jewell and Co., Scotch Kelly, A. D. Robbins, Willie Rolls.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Les Trombettas, Graham and Cullen, Varr and Tunis, Billy Wells and Eclair Twins, Miles Stavordale Quartette, Dameell, and company as booked.

MANCHESTER PALACE rehearsal, 11).—De Biere, Manny and Roberts, Symphonia, Nat Moore, Billy Reeves and Co., Lauri Devine.

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—"Nights of Gladness."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"The Whirl of To-day (second week).

RAYMOND Wittiest of Wizards.

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing March 12:—Gobert Belling, Great Wieland, Ajax and Emily, Juliette Dika, Paul Stephens, Renee de Bauga, Georgel, Billy O'Connor, Mareski, Gilbert and French, Ethel Levey.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Hadje, Leslie Elliott, Robert Reilly, Hylda Nelson Trio, Esta Stella, George Mozart, Skating Nelsons, and company as booked.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Dorothy Ward, Shaun Glenville, Merry and Company, Ivor Vinter, Deodima, Harry Marlow, Mason and Bart.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"Sons of the Sea."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Cissie Lupino, Three Van Dammes, Arthur Leslie, Madeline Lois, The Keystones, Kirkby and Hudson, and company as booked.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—"Bing Boys on Broadway."

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—"The Eyes of Youth."

LEON VINT CIRCUIT.

BARRY DOCK PALACE.—Arley and Alys, Robert Lacey.

LLANELLY PALACE.—"Annie Laurie" Co.

NEATH PALACE. — Eight Harmony Girls.

ALBANY WARD CIRCUIT.

Rehearsals at each place a 1 o'clock, except Weymouth, at 12.

BARNSTAPLE THEATRE ROYAL.—Horace Hodges and Co. in "Grumpy," March 8, 9 and 10.

BRIDGWATER PALACE. — Horace Hodges and Co. in "Grumpy," March 11, 12 and 13.

CHEPSTOW PALACE. — The Balladmongers, Heeley and Crawford.

CHIPPENHAM PALACE.—The Gunners Concert Party, March 11, 12 and 13.

SALISBURY NEW THEATRE.—"The Naughty Wife."

SALISBURY PALACE. — Nicol and Martin, Three Surprises, Dnig Sen Bros., Dorothy Storm.

TROWBRIDGE PALACE.—The Gunners Concert Party, March 8, 9 and 10.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—"The Red Moon," Peggy O'Hara, Evelyn and Clayton.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Adelaide Gretton, Bros., Moore.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT (2). ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The La Zella Ladies, Walker and FitzGerald, Frazer and Taite, Seymour and Mead, Arthur and Elsie, Allan and Marshall, Charles Topping, Eva Renee, Cpl. Hunt, Will Lear, May Elton, Hilda Marston, Arthur Burns, Dorothy Mayne, Alf D'Alroy, Noel and Kay, Fred Goodwin, Bessie Florence, Leslie Bros., Jnr.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Wit and Wisdom" revue.

RAYMOND Turcults Plentiful.

The Romanesca Quartette, Joyce and Shields.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Kuming and Windsor, Bale Family, Vivian Foster, Melt and Bray.

AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1). — The Richardsons, Hector and Lolletta, Sanni, Winifred Mack, McIvor and Scott, Linga Singh, Flo Davis.

BATH PALACE THEATRE.—6 Bros. Luck, "Film Stars."

CHELTENHAM HIPPODROME.—Patman Organ, Armstrong and Howarth, Violet Grey, Henry Merton, Harry Leybourne, Daring Dinnies.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Jack Sterzelli, Florence Yayman, Horace Ainsley, Jack Tarr, Rich and Galvin.

DUNDEE KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Goodson's revue, "Revels."

FOLKESTONE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 12).—The Artois, Bonny Bray.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).—Albert Whelan, Hunter and Bob, Doroswami, Alpho, Gerrard and Kray, Cainal McGarvey, Phil Kaufman.

GOOLE COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).—Harry Taft, Walter Kemp and Co., Maggie Clifton and Partner, Napoli, Ninette, Arthur Morton, Astor and Astoria.

GUILDFORD ROYAL (rehearsal, 2).—"Yes, Uncle."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Val Walker, the Wizard of the Navy, Duncan and Godfrey, Barton and Ashley, Harry Champion, Austin Rudd, The Caron Troupe, Winter and Bunny, Barts, Marie Lawton.

LONDON CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL THEATRE (rehearsal, 11.30).—Joe Boganny and Co. in "The Bill-

RAYMOND Present Prestidigitateur.

posters," Leo Cud's Six Musical Navvies, W. G. Watts, Fanny Hyde, Ernest Montefiore presents "The Sinn Feiner," Arthur Maynard, The Colquhouns.

LONDON CANTERBURY.—Kelly and Hargaden, Ethel Clayton in "Pettigrew's Girls," The Krags Duo, Cecil B. de Mille in "For Better or Worse," Reta Davis, Pathé's Gazette, and other new pictures. Will artists please note that no variety agent has the sole bookings for this hall?

LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—Harry Weldon, Brooklyn Comedy Four, Fredk. Sylvester and Co., Seven Nobodies, Allan Stuart, Five Petleys, Nolan and Holt, Lean Victoria.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Tatten Hall, La Maria, W. L. Rowland, Nord and Dane, Frank and Elsie, Two Selbinis, Ackroyd and Hardy.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Nevill Graham's "Sonny Jim."

PONTYPRIDD TOWN HALL (rehearsal, 3.30).—Franco Piper, Tom and Maria Motramo, Cornalia and Eddie, Evelyn May and Sister, Frank O'Dell, George Calver, Uniques, Sparrow.

READING PALACE THEATRE.—Kitty Denton's "8 Rays of Sunshine," Nina and Partner, Clown Argo, Clarke and Ritchie, Pathé Gazette, T. J. Allen, Billy and Doris Harley, Ben Albert.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12 noon).—"Carminetta."

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Spalding and Vanguard,

RAYMOND Some Sorcerer.

O'Kayama Troupe, Newman and Wynne, Johnny Fuller, Billy Rogers, Lillie Lassah, Wren and Wrex, Hyde and Hilton, Jim C. Max, 5 Gold Flakes, Wardini, Bioscope.

STIRLING ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 1).—The Larkum Bros., Gardiner and Stoddart, Bertini, The Randles, McGregor and Smith, Gintaro, and Jack Lorrimer.

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Humberia Wu-Chaio Chinese Troupe, H. F. Foster and Co. in "Ferdie's Ma-in-law," Marjorie Fulton, George Perry, Joe Archer, Lucie Linda, Ellen Gallimore and Siddons, The Stellios, Woodhouse and Wells, Pathé's Gazette.

Satisfactory Coliseum Report.

The report of the directors of the Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd., to be submitted at the 12th annual general meeting of shareholders, fixed for Thursday morning, March 11, shows that the total income for the year is £60,050 3s. 6d., which with the balance of £71,135 17s. 11d. brought forward from last year, raises the credit side of the profit and loss account to £131,185 1s. 5d. The net balance for disposal is £102,863 10s. 2d. The directors recommend that £5,000 be set aside for redemption of debenture stock; that £25,000 be transferred to reserve account; that a dividend be paid on the ordinary shares for the second half of the year at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum, less tax, absorbing £6,176 9s., which makes 25 per cent. for the year (less tax), and that the balance of £66,687 1s. 2d. be carried forward to the current year's accounts. The directors also recommend a bonus distribution representing capitalisation of reserves of one 7 per cent. preference share for each ordinary share.

Death of George Rampling.

Mr. George Rampling, the circus agent, who passed away at the Royal Cancer Hospital, Glasgow, on Feb. 23, was well known on the road, having been connected with Mr. E. H. Bostock's Circus and Menagerie, Sanger's, and Sir Robert Fossett's Circus also Poole's Myriorama. The deceased had been in hospital since January, 1919, and during his long and painful illness Mr. E. H. Bostock saw that he had every comfort and attention possible. The funeral took place on Wednesday at Lamb Hill Cemetery, Glasgow, Mr. E. H. Bostock, Mr. Gus Bostock, and Mr. Jim Marchant being present.

Golders Green Hippodrome.

At the Hippodrome, Golders Green, this week, the attraction is "Hullo, America!" and it opened to fine business on Monday evening. The cast is exceptionally strong, and includes Miss Daisy Taylor and Miss Nora Criena in leading rôles; Mark Lupino, Dan Booker, and Alec Regan being the principal male artists. The entire company worked hard for the success achieved, and well deserved their hearty reception. A word of praise is due to Sidney Grata for his stage direction.

Mr. Firmin informs us Newman and Wynne, the sketch artists, will proceed to Australia on conclusion of their African engagement about July for an Australasian tour.

W. S. Pearce Farewell Dinner.

Mr. W. S. Pearce, the popular manager of the Palace Theatre, Bath, who is taking a trip to South America for the benefit of his health, was given a farewell dinner at the Spa Hotel on Friday. The Mayor, in proposing the toast of "Our Guest," said they were there to honour their friend, Mr. Pearce, to wish him bon voyage, and a safe return in the best of health. Although previous speakers had taken much from his toast, he was none the less appreciative of the great work done by their guest. He had entertained nearly 100,000 soldiers at the Palace, and he had not spared himself in any way, either in pocket, time, or trouble. During the time he had been at the Palace Mr. Pearce had raised on behalf of charity something like £13,000 to £14,000.

Tribute to Variety Artists.

Mr. Pearce, in reply, said it did his heart good to have an opportunity of telling them that whatever good had been done and had emanated from the Palace had been done by, first of all, the support he had received mainly from the gentlemen around him, who had all been friends indeed, and next, and if possible, a greater asset, the contribution of the variety artists. They were a wonderful breed were variety artists; they personified the spirit of generosity. These men and women had contributed in the main to what had been possible so far as he was concerned. Week by week during the war one of the first things they said was where are the hospitals, where are the wounded, and he had never, when asking artists to assist him in an entertainment, heard the word "No."

[Photo, Williams Pioneer Studios.

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All Luggage will be Insured Free of Charge against Fire and Burglary whilst in the possession of the Company or its servants.

Artistes will be requested to forward each week printed postcards (to be supplied) giving particulars as to address, number of packages, time of departure, etc., or in the case of arrival in London, of the time of train, station, and number of packages. The Motor Vans and V.A.T. men will meet all trains when ordered in advance.

Motto—Celerity and Safety.

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This will be a Special Department and in the spacious Warehouse Artistes Luggage of every description will be stored by the day, week or month at very moderate rates, with the important convenience of free access to the packages at any time during office hours.

The Date of Commencing Week of Business will be Announced Shortly.

Circulars and postcards will be ready next week, and will be supplied on application to—

The Manager, V. A. T. Co. (Ltd.), 25, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. 1, who will be pleased to reply to any enquiries.

NOTICE TO ARTISTES.

THE

LONDON MUSIC HALL,

SHOREDITCH, E.

Arbitrators' Award, 1913.

Owing to Change of Proprietorship all Contracts are Cancelled for the above, dating from March, 29, 1920.

Arbitrators' Award, 1919.

All Artistes holding Contracts for the above March 29, 1920, and wishing same ratified, please communicate immediately to the appointed Booking Agents—

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A New Musical Play. By Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse. Additional lyrics by Clifford Grey. Music by Ivan Caryll.

The Cast includes

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The Play produced under the direction of GEORGE GROSSMITH, by FELIX EDWARDES.

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FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

Child's Charade for Grown-ups—Anglo-French Family Play—Wedded on the Latest Plan—New Play Producing Society.

"THE YOUNG VISITERS."

Dramatised from Daisy Ashford's book, by Mrs. George Norman and Miss Margaret Mackenzie. Produced, for the First Time, in London, at the Court Theatre, on Feb. 24.

Every one at the Court on the opening night was on tip-toe with expectation and excitement. Would the dramatic version of the famous story written by Daisy Ashford at the age of nine be as good as the book? In fact, could such a book be dramatised at all? Would not the naïveté and delicious novelty of this childish novel be lost behind the footlights? Any doubts were speedily dispelled soon after the rising of the curtain on Mr. Salteena's house, and the audience settled down to the great enjoyment of seeing Ethel Monticue and Mr. Salteena in the flesh. It was a great moment when it was felt they passed the test.

The play is a wonderful big charade written by a child for grown-ups. The adapters have been faithful to the book, for we failed to detect an added line, excepting that a few descriptive passages are now brought naturally into conversations. Practically everything in Daisy Ashford's romance has been included in the play, which is divided into three "ideas," and seventeen scenes. The "Railway Journey" was omitted on the opening night owing to some difficulty with the panorama cloth which depicted the "flashing past the windows of the cows," so that we found ourselves sooner than expected at the home of Bernard Clark, with its "sumshious" apartments, and the "correct ancestors," who were certainly "quite the thing." So was Bernard Clark. He quite passed muster with his elegant clothes and nonchalant air. Without a knowledge of the book, we could have foretold that he was the one for Ethel, and that Mr. Salteena—dear, pathetic Mr. Salteena—was doomed to disappointment.

The best fun is, however, at the Crystal Palace, whence Mr. Salteena goes to be taught how to become the "correct article in the way of gentlemen." His tutor, "The Earl of Clincham," was certainly the correct thing, and even Procurio, the valet, made Mr. Salteena look very small. The Prince of Wales, however, at the famous levee, was much more homely, and it is a supreme moment when the party lap up icecream and discuss Mr. Salteena's not quite correct ancestry. Then follows the scene on the river, when the hero takes "the bull by both horns," and proposes to Ethel, who is so knowingly modest. The wedding reception at the "Gaiety" Hotel brings the fun to a triumphant close.

Miss Ashford, in a little speech, said that the company played the characters just as she had imagined them at the age of nine, and Miss Edyth Goodall referred to her "adorable company" in her first managerial speech at the end. We cannot imagine any of the parts being better acted. Every one caught the spirit of the thing exactly. Miss Goodall was the Ethel of our imaginations. Arch and knowing irresistible in her naughtiness, and yet the "heroine" all the time.

Mr. Salteena was made even more memorable by Mr. Ben Field. He was so "incorrect" and so pathetic. It is a really fine piece of comedy. Other big successes were scored by Mr. Harold Anstruther, the very elegant hero; Mr. John Deverell as the immaculate Earl of Clincham; Mr. Clarence Blakiston as the Prince, and Mr. Lawrence Hanray, who now plays the Italian valet, Procurio. Miss Deborah Nanson, as the Duchess, brought down the house when she sang "Ta-ra-ra-boom-de-ay" at the wedding reception, and amusing pieces of character-acting were given by Mr. Moffat Johnston as Minnit and Miss Ina Cameron as Bessie Topp, the lady-in-waiting.

Mr. J. V. Bryant produced the play, and his scenery is "quite the real thing."

"MUMSEE."

Play, in Four Acts, by Edward Knoblock. Produced at the Little Theatre, Tuesday, Feb. 24.

Marie Symonds ..... Miss Eva Moore
Edgar Symonds .. Mr. H. O. Nicholson
Noel ..... Mr. Arthur Pusey
Guy ..... Mr. Henry Kendall
Louise ..... Miss Dorothy Lane
Yvonne ..... Miss Dorothy Tetley
Paulette ..... Miss Edna Best
Clémence ..... Miss Diana Hamilton
Colonel Armytage..Mr. Dawson Milward
Harry Armytage .. Mr. Cyril Raymond
Felix Keesler ..... Mr. Tarver Penna
A Swiss Waiter....Mr. George G. Carr

Avowing their policy of "producing the best plays dealing with contemporary life by authors whose mental attitude is modern," Messrs. Vedrenne and Vernon reopened the Little Theatre in the Adelphi, Tuesday, Feb. 24, with a new play by Mr. Edward Knoblock. On the programme are printed the words:—

"Where War and Death screamed, Peace now sows its corn,
Where Blood and Youth streamed, Life springs to the morn;
Yet neither Sun, nor Rain, nor Time, nor Chance,
Can change thy Agony and Glory,—FRANCE!"

The play opens with a delightfully intimate picture of the home life of an Anglo-French family in the little town of St. Barnabé. Somewhere in France; time, August, 1913. The Mumsée of the title is a charming, clever, vivacious Frenchwoman in the very early forties, the mother of two grown-up sons and three fair daughters, the youngest an attractively natural schoolgirl with a large appetite and a disconcerting habit of speaking the truth. The father is an Englishman, a dreamy, unpractical old bookseller, sixteen years older than his pretty wife. His complete lack of business methods has kept Mumsée planning and scheming to save halfpennies through the twenty-three years of their married life. A chance comes to make a small fortune, but the opportunity is lost because Noel, the eldest son and his mother's adoré, has gambled away the small capital necessary. To save Mumsée from the knowledge that will break her heart, her husband lays the blame upon his own incompetence. The war comes and brings out the gold and the dross in the characters of all. The second son, Guy, proves himself a fine, manly chap; Mumsée and the girls rise nobly to every occasion for self-sacrifice; the old father is buried too deeply among his books to emerge even for a world-struggle. Only Noel fails—weak, cowardly Noel. Shirking every responsibility, the gambling craze strong upon him, yet with sufficient cunning to keep his true character concealed from the eyes of his family, he is forced to borrow money everywhere—from his eldest sister Louise, tediously earning her mite to add to the family exchequer; from sweet Yvonne, the war-bride of a young British officer, Harry Armytage; even from Harry's father, Colonel Armytage. Finally Noel gets into the unclean clutches of a German spy and sells information to the enemy. In a well-written scene the truth is discovered by Mumsée and the Colonel, whose friendship for the brave little Frenchwoman has deepened to love. The Colonel's duty is plain, but he yields to the mother's frantic pleading to give her son a chance to redeem himself. Ultimately the boy's manhood asserts itself, and he goes forth to frustrate the result of his treachery and to his death.

The fourth act, with the re-gathering of the family on Armistice Day (the old bookseller conveniently killed in the meantime) and the betrothal of Mumsée and the Colonel and of Louise and an American soldier, struck us as needless, and has, we believe, been cut bodily since the first performance.

In spite of a few weak spots, "Mumsée" is interesting and sympathetic, and is very well acted. Miss Eva Moore is admirable in the name-part. She bears the chief burden of the play and carries it through triumphantly, proving herself once more an actress with exceptional powers of portraying pathos, gaiety, and deep emotion. Miss Dorothy Tetley makes Yvonne a delightful girl, and a decided hit is made by Miss Edna Best as the frank and fearless flapper. Mr. Dawson Milward's polish and skill is invaluable in the difficult part of the Colonel, and an excellent little sketch of a German spy is contributed by Mr. George G. Carr. A singularly vivid picture of a weakling and a coward is presented by Mr. Arthur Pusey as Noel.

"OVER SUNDAY."

Farcical Comedy, in Four Acts, by William Hurlbut. Produced at the St. Martin's Theatre, Friday, Feb. 27.

Mrs. Ercoll .....Helen Ferrers
Mrs. McVey .....Margaret Watson
Lucy Delaney .....Dorothy Turner
Arthur Barnard ..... J. H. Roberts
Foxcroft Grey .....Clive Brook
Susanne .....Iris Hoey
McCauley .....Malcolm Keen
Dot Carrington..Muriel Hope Alexander
Charlie Hamilton .....Jasper Plowden
Mrs. Entwistle .....Blanche Stanley
Mary .....Mildred Evelyn

To succeed the merry but short-lived "Judy," the Reandean Management presented at the St. Martin's Theatre on Friday night a farcical comedy of the lightest description, with a heroine whose lack of self-knowledge is as complete as her lack of self-control, and an atmosphere that is bewilderingly American, or as such we take it to be.

We have met young American girls from the Southern States almost as childishly wayward as Suzanne, but never a widow with her ignorance of men or with her charm. But then Suzanne is Miss Iris Hoey, and the one thing Miss Hoey cannot do is to make herself unattractive in any part. With all her absurdity, Suzanne is lovable, and one finds it easy to understand the love and patience of her second husband, Foxcroft Grey. Suzanne's first marriage had been spoilt by her husband's jealousy, and when he died she was greatly loath to fetter herself with new chains. But Suzanne loved "Foxie," and she didn't want to lose him, while he was masterful and refused to be kept dangling indefinitely, so she evolved a great plan. She would be a pioneer, and would wed him on condition that they spent their week-ends together and be free to do as they liked, without questions, for the rest of the week, that their married life, in fact, should be an "Over-Sunday" affair only. To get his bride, Foxie consents, and a contract is signed, and we find Suzanne on the Monday morning after their first taste of married life leaving her husband with obvious reluctance, though he wisely puts no obstacles to her going. Returning for her bag, which we half suspect she has left as an excuse, Suzanne finds a pretty girl in her husband's rooms, and is jealously resentful that she has apparently been taken at her word. To pay him out, Suzanne tries to induce a very mild young man, a dramatist, ambitious to write "red blood," to enact literally with her the third act of his latest play, having previously invited her husband by an anonymous telegram to participate. Foxie, abetted by Suzanne's worldly-wise mother, carries off the honours, and finally assuming an indifference he does not feel, brings the foolish little lady, weeping, to his arms, crying that she will smash the silly old contract "good and plenty," and only wants domesticity and her masterful Foxie.

Miss Iris Hoey worked splendidly and heroically to carry a weak play to a triumphant issue, and she actually managed to inspire us with the idea that the feather-headed, artificial Suzanne had a human soul somewhere inside, and that she would develop into a lovely type of womanhood. The only objection, and it is but a slight one, that we have to make to Miss Hoey's rendering of Suzanne is a tendency here and there to burlesque the part. Mr. Clive Brook played in a quiet, manly way that was attractive, and Mr. J. H. Roberts was particularly good as the effeminate dramatist. Miss Blanche Stanley was capital as a forbidding but kindly housekeeper, and Miss Helen Ferrers and Miss Margaret Watson were sound and invaluable as Suzanne's Mamma and an interested friend respectively. Miss Muriel Hope Alexander played brightly as the lady who was found in an equivocal position.

THE KITTY WILLOUGHBY PLAY PRODUCTIONS.

The first of a series of matinées, inaugurated primarily with the laudable idea of "providing a means whereby new authors and new performers may have an opportunity of introducing their work to theatrical managers under favourable conditions," was given at the St. Martin's Theatre last Thursday afternoon.

The programme consisted of three sketches and a duologue, and started with an exhibition of clever acrobatic dancing by Miss Dorothy Stewart and Mr. Fred Comos.

Of the three sketches by far the best was

"ACCORDING TO THE EVIDENCE," By D. C. F. Harding and Bibsie Loveaux.

This showed genuine aptitude for dramatic situations and a gift for writing effective dialogue.

Before the curtain rises we hear a woman's voice singing, then a shot and a fall, and next see a dead man lying on the stage, a valet entering hurriedly, and although obviously aghast, retaining sufficient presence of mind to telephone for doctor and police. There enters Dr. Macguire (evidently taken by Mr. Dolphe Wheeler on Mr. Holman Clarke's lines, and very well taken, too!) and an extremely alert chief inspector of police. From the manservant, Andrews (well played by Mr. Bertram Martin) the chief inspector elicits the damning facts that the dead man's dear friend, Mme. Valencia, had dined with him that evening, had sung to him just before the fatal shot had been fired. The prima donna is summoned to the house, and slowly the rope is tightened round her throat until the moment for arrest; then, as a bullet falls accidentally from the gramophone and once more the beautiful voice of the singer fills the room, a madman — Valencia's husband — bursts through the concealing curtains and shrieks confession of murder. Majestically Valencia withers the chief inspector with a few scornful words and stalks grandly away.

Mrs. Saba Raleigh played with much dramatic power as the singer, Mr. Dennis Wyndham was a little jerky as the inspector, Mr. Bertram Andrews was good as the frightened manservant.

"THE MAGNET," By Gaston Gerveux,

was a little piece of no great value—all about a lady who rose from the gutter to be a duchess, and would have been a princess but for the untimely visit of an old admirer who had known and loved her in her Bohemian and more amusing days. They dance a wild dance together, and at the conclusion the Prince is refused in favour of the artist. The acting, by Miss Christine Silver, Mr. Barnett Law, Mr. Eric Cowley, was uniformly good.

"A SIMPLE GENTLEMAN?" By Gordon Aston,

proved a foolish affair, hopelessly amateurish. Freddy Mayne, an actor, and his wife Peggy, are "down and out." They try to fleece a well-dressed young noodle, picked up by Peggy in a 'bus, and succeed in getting a handful of banknotes, which turn out to be forgeries. Miss Kitty Willoughby, Mr. Richard Coke and Mr. Lionel Scott took the principal parts. The duologue,

"JANE THE IRREPRESSIBLE," was also more fit for amateur production than for public representation. Its object is to give Jane, the slavey, an opportunity for song and dance and for a few imitations with the aid of some simple disguises borrowed from the basket of her mistress, an actress.

Miss Lucy Fortescue played the actress and Miss Clara Denny was Jane.

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Visited by most of the Principal Companies touring, including:—"Bing Boys" (second visit), "Arcadians" (6th visit), "Daddy Long-Legs" (3rd visit), "Maid of the Mountains" (2nd visit), "Razzle Dazzle," "La Poupée" (8th visit), "Eliza Comes to Stay" (3rd visit), "Toto" (3rd visit), "High Jinks" (2nd visit), "Luck of the Navy" (2nd visit), "Chinese Puzzle," "The Boy," "Betty" (2nd visit), "To-night's the Night" (2nd visit), "Bing Boys on Broadway," "Southern Maid," "Quinneys'" (2nd visit), "General Post" (2nd visit), "Yes, Uncle" (2nd visit), "Man from Toronto" (2nd visit), "The Passing Show," "Scandal," "Oh, Joy!" (2nd visit), "Fair and Warmer," "In the Night Watch," "Going Up," "The Soldier Boy," "The Maid of the East," "The Law Divine," "Eyes of Youth," "Telling the Tale" (2nd visit), "The Naughty Wife," "Temporary Gentleman," "Tails Up" (2nd visit), "Tilly of Bloomsbury," The Geo. Edwardes Co.'s, "Gipsy Love," "Merry Widow," "Peg o' My Heart" (3rd visit), "As You Were," "Afgar," The O'Mara Opera Co. (4th visit), "Kissing Time," "Baby Bunting," "Buzz-Buzz," "Any Lady," "Lilac Domino," "Cinderella Man," "Cash on Delivery" (2nd visit), The D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. (many visits), Harry Russell's Pantomime, 1921 (fourth season).
A few Summer and Autumn dates open. All coms., J. H. CURRY, above Theatre.

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THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the VARIETY ARTISTS' BENEVOLENT FUND AND INSTITUTION, will be held on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1920, in the Board Room, 18, Charing Cross-road, at 12 o'clock.

BUSINESS.

The annual report of the Committee will be submitted.

The statement of receipts and payments for the past year will be received.

The following alterations in the rules will be proposed:—Rule 3: In the fifth line the words "their widows or dependants." Rule 7: In the fifth line add the word "postal."

The election of hon. officers will take place.

All subscribers to the Fund are invited to be present.

By order of the Committee.
C. DOUGLAS STUART.

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THE ERA
ESTABLISHED 1837.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3, 1920.

OPERATIC ACTIVITIES.

Comprehensive Programme of Music.

IF the London public profit from the opportunities afforded by the Sir THOMAS BEECHAM Company's season now running at Covent Garden, the "Old Vic." performances, the new FAIRBAIRN-MILNE enterprise at the Surrey, the CARL ROSA season expected in the spring, and the crowning cosmopolitan summer season at the Royal Opera House, they may enjoy a liberal education in operatic styles, schools, and periods during the six months ending with July. The amazing diversity presented—taking all the repertoires together—could certainly not be matched in any other European—or American—capital.

Beginning with WAGNER, who looms as large as ever on the operatic horizon. At Covent Garden, though only eight days of the season are run, "Parsifal," "Tristan and Isolda," and "Tannhäuser" have already been heard. "The Mastersingers" is to follow. The tale is taken up by Miss BAYLIS, who puts on "Lohengrin," and continued at the Surrey, where "The Flying Dutchman" illustrates another stage in WAGNER's development. Then the celebration of Sir THOMAS BEECHAM'S "little MOZART festival," with performances of "The Seraglio," "The Magic Flute," and "Figaro," finds its echo in the FAIRBAIRN production of "Don Giovanni." And if enthusiasm runs high enough and opera-goers are so minded, they may compare notes within a few days' space on three different presentations of GOUNOD'S "Faust." Sir THOMAS BEECHAM gives us two examples of modern native work in DE LARA'S "Nail" and DELIUS' "A Village Romeo and Juliet," and we shall look to the enterprising CARL ROSA management when they come to town for their usual batch of novelties by our own "young composers."

The Scarcity of Vocalists.

Since supply argues demand, the conclusion is that all this activity indicates a waxing rather than a waning of the "opera boom." The question arises, now that the public appetite has been whetted, how is the provision of this sort of musical fare to be kept up? Opera cannot be given without competent singers; and even now the chief difficulty in the way of opera impresarios is the scarcity of them. Soon, if enterprises multiply—as they are sure to do—there will not be enough performers to go round. Opera singers are made, nor born; and they are not made in a month or two. They are, or should be, a race apart, consecrated to the work by lofty ambition, long training, and peculiar fitness. Concert singers have gained, and gain, success on the stage, but those who do are the first to admit that early and specialised training is irreplaceable later on.

The Royal College of Music School of Opera and other like enterprises show that the teaching fraternity, at any rate, is alive to the necessity for the creation of a "school" of representative opera-singers of whom England may be proud. A corresponding awakening on the part of students is to be hoped for. Now, indeed, is the tide in the young vocalist's affairs. May he, and she, take it "at the flood."

HOW LILY BECAME LONG.

A SHORT SKETCH.

By HERSELF.

How did Lily become Long?

This is an unusual story. It happened thus.

Lily Long, that is, was playing at Barrow-in-Furness as Lil O'Gorman that was. She (I) was the Prince in "Cinderella"—I am now an ugly sister in "Cinderella" at Drury Lane—at the Theatre Royal, and I did so badly (this is against myself) that eventually I had to change my name.

What happened?

Well, in the first place, I had to have padding made specially for me, because I was thin—long—so that I might look symmetrical—proper. One day my brother borrowed my tights while I was not looking, so that, in them, he might do some fancy skating at a local rink. The tights were never returned to me. I was naturally in a predicament.

No Luck.

Fortunately for me, at any rate, the man who was playing the Dame fell ill. He had no understudy; I had—a girl from the chorus was capable of taking my place.

I will not mention her name. She is a well-known "star" in London to-day. I was asked to play the Dame, and consented. I had never done such a thing before, and, as events proved, was very foolish in doing so. But I was ambitious. I really did not know how to make up as a dame. But nothing venture, nothing gain.

So I asked one of the comedians how to put on the best comic face. He replied: "If you are going to become a comedian, you will have to learn the practised art." So I got a lot of black stuff and made my eyes look like George Robey's, and decorated my face terribly. So much so that when the audience saw me they howled. This naturally upset those who played with me, so much so that the comedian who took the part of Baron was greatly interrupted. He could get no further than the words: "I am the Baron, I beg to state," as the audience were laughing at me, not because I was deserving so much of praise, but because they were laughing at my amateur make up. Finally, so disgusted was the Baron that he said to me under his breath: "Go and hide your blooming self," or words to that effect. As a consequence, I had to retire from the stage while the Baron finished his remarks.

A Favourable Breeze.

At this period I only got a small salary, and I felt that as Lily O'Gorman new agents would not book dates for me. So I had to change my tactics—my name, at any rate. And soon Lily O'Gorman became "Eva Breeze." I thought by changing my name to Breeze, agents would soon get to know me, and when we met would say: "Miss Breeze, how are you blowing?"

After a little while a lady I met in an hotel said she didn't like my new name. What do you think of that? "I am just going to have my bath," she added; "I will think of a good name for you." She came out of her bath in due time in a dressing-gown, and said, "I've got your name. Lily Long!" Straight away the lady went to her agent and said, "I've found a wonderful comedienne: book her for the Crouch End Hippodrome." I came to London and topped the bill—and drew £2 10s. for the week. In those days I always played with a black nose, and not a red one, like most comedians. My knowledge of make-up was very crude, and many times I was "told off" by managers and threatened with cruel consequences if I did not learn to make up properly.

Arrival at the Lane.

How I came to Drury Lane is an interesting story. There is, as everyone knows, a certain amount of luck in all professions, notably so in the theatrical profession. I was asked to appear at a charity matinée at the Prince of Wales' Theatre. Several well-known managers were in front, including Mr. Arthur Collins, but he was the only one who seemed to recognise that I possessed some comedy talent. Immediately after the performance he sent for me, and at once gave me an engagement for the pantomime at Drury Lane. That was five years ago. And my contract extends for another three years. If I am bold enough to be guided by Press opinions, Mr. Collins's judgment has not been too optimistic.

One year Mr. Collins sent me to Liverpool to play George Graves' part in the pantomime "Puss in Boots." I took this as a very great compliment, as George Graves is looked upon as one of the finest pantomime dames in the country.

Some comedians in pantomime seem to think it necessary to adopt comic or eccentric make-ups. My experience of the last few years is that this is not the case. The cleaner the make-up, the more effective the comedy.

Only Skin Deep.

Beauty is only skin deep, and the same thing applies to ugliness. This is especially applicable to the part I am now playing, as the ugly sisters should not be ugly in the physical sense, but ugly in character, and it is on these lines I am endeavouring to play the part of an ugly sister in the Drury Lane pantomime.

One reason why I decided never to make up really ugly again was that I found that a younger sister of mine in the same show was receiving all the attention of the players, and all the invitations to lunches, whereas I was absolutely neglected. One day, on going out from a matinée, I was seized by several "ardent admirers," who in the dim light of the stage door did not recognise my features. But to my horror, on getting me into the street, these "admirers" discovered their mistake, sent me back to the theatre to—ask that my sister be sent in my stead.

From that day I decided that in my make-up I should become as nice as I possibly could, compatible with the character I was representing.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Prehistoric Marriage—A Modern Phedre—Political Skits—New Revue by Rip.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Saturday. — "Le Premier Couple," a one-act piece in verse by Andry Dumas, was given by the Comedie Francaise on Tuesday. It must not be assumed that the first couple in question was Adam and Eve. The poem deals with the precursors of a legitimate union between man and woman, and portrays the early tendency of monogamy, describing a couple who showed faithfulness towards one another, and who fled from their tribe that they might live together, building the first cabin to create a family of the same stock. This first couple of M. Dumas, and all the clan surrounding them, converse in purest Alexandrines. The piece is admirably acted by Paul Mounet, as an aged nuisance considered by the tribe as too old to live longer; by Albert Lambert, as the prehistoric husband, Dorivak; and by Mmes Silvain and Delvain, the latter admirable as the female who is bold enough to expect a unique mate throughout her existence.

"Mademoiselle Ma Mere."

Louis Verneuil's latest comedy, which consists of three acts of spice, delicately seasoned, was given at the Theatre Femina on Wednesday. A man of 48 is married to Jacqueline, aged 20, but the marriage has never been consummated. He is a gay dog, and easily finds consolation for his wounded pride. He has a son, George, who is just the contrary. Sedate and honourable, he pities his stepmother. When Jacqueline, in a fit of despair, accepts an invitation to dine with a society dude, Georges, posing as a jealous husband, interrupts the meal and drives away the dude. During the ensuing explanation the young couple reveal their mutual love, and the young man departs horrified at the precarious situation. Next day the waiter from the restaurant calls to claim his money, so that the husband learns of the previous night's adventure. He prevails on his son to intercede with Jacqueline in his behalf, but finally decides to arrange for a divorce that his son may marry his stepmother.

"L'Alcove de Marianne."

Another comedy, in three acts, by Felix Gandera, was duly mounted at the Theatre de l'Athenée on Thursday. The title emblematically signifies the sidelights of French politics, but is sadly misleading. Ministerial combinations are supposed to be fashioned in the ante-rooms of pretty women. Ginette has married the politician Benjamin, and receives a shock when she sees her husband kissing Natatcha. But being ambitious regarding her husband, she overlooks the fact on learning it is the manner of securing a place in the Cabinet. Later, however, Ginette is grieved to find Natatcha in the arms of Chantal, another political candidate for a high position. There is a radical way of reversing the situation so that Benjamin may be successful and not ridiculous. With the assistance of Ugolin, who is painting her portrait, she spoils the rendezvous in a studio between Natatcha and Chantal. Her husband, who has noticed the intrigue, is indignant, and so is the painter and the Speaker of the Senate—all in love with Ginette. A duel would ruin their political careers, so Benjamin closes his eyes. Thus the wife realises the weak character of her husband and accepts the courting of Chantal.

"Miousic."

On Friday M. Pierre Wolff, presiding over the destinies of the new Theatre du Vaudeville, presented a revue by Rip and Gignoux. The ghost of M. Gheusi's Theatre Lyrique is raised by Cleopatra being compelled to sing comic ditties to earn her living instead of remaining in grand opera. Germaine Gallois, who has not been seen for some years, reappears in this production. Marguerite Deval makes good. The honours of the show are due to Signoret, who has three excellent rôles, first as a former undertaker who has obtained a position as M.C. for the actual terpsichorean craze, and solemnly discourses on the beauties of up-to-date dancing.

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

Another Bedroom Farce—A Night Boat Musical Farce—Maxine Elliott's Return.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—Georges Feydeau's farce, "Occupez-toi d'Amelie," has reached Broadway under the title of "Breakfast in Bed," Willard Mack and Hilliard Booth being responsible for the American version. The farce was produced by A. H. Woods on the 3rd inst., at the Eltinge Theatre, and scored a success. Florence Moore, a most mercurial comedienne, is the star, and as Emily Duval Bates contrives to keep the attention of the audience focussed upon her most of the time. The story is slight indeed; the fun lies in the situations. Emily's fiancé, Benjamin Colby, asks Jack Marston, his best friend, to take care of her whilst he is out of the city. In the second act, following a lively masquerade, Emily, dressed as Cleopatra, is found in Jack's bed, while Jack, in Roman attire, is asleep on a chair.

"The Night Boat."

This three-act musical comedy, produced at the Liberty Theatre on the 2nd inst., is founded on a farce by Alexander Bisson. The libretto and lyrics are by Anne Caldwell, and the music by Jerome Kern. While there is nothing new about the plot, the situations are sufficiently amusing, and the piece has made a hit. The "specialties" in the last act are good, especially that in which the dancers have collie dogs as partners. Once again a married man who wanders from his own fireside and invents a plausible excuse for his absence has the centre of the stage. In this instance he tells his family that he is captain of the Albany night boat. Of course, there happens to be a real captain of the same name, and as the other characters include a wife and mother-in-law who decide to investigate for themselves, the rest may be imagined.

"My Golden Girl."

Victor Herbert's music, the agreeable personality of Marie Carroll, and the dancing of Evelyn Cavanaugh combine to make this two-act musical comedy attractive. The book and lyrics were written by Frederic Arnold Kummer. Peggy Mitchell has a passion for golf and tennis, while Arthur, her husband, has an inordinate affection for the bassoon. This causes dissension, with preparations for a divorce. Each has an "affinity," but the "affinities" fall in love with each other, and the Mitchells make it up, to the disappointment of the divorce lawyers. The best musical numbers are "My Golden Girl," "If We Had Met Before," "A Song Without (Many) Words," "Shooting Star," "In Venice," and "What Shall We Do if the Moon Goes Out?" The comedy parts are well played by Victor Morley, Ned Sparks, and Robert O'Connor.

"Trimmed in Scarlet."

Maxine Elliott made her reappearance on the New York stage on the 2nd inst. in this four-act comedy by William Hurlbut at the theatre which bears her name, and received a warm welcome. The scene was originally laid in London, but had been changed to New York. In the character of Cordelia ("Mrs. Prudence"), Miss Elliott gave a truly fine portrayal, and won much applause.

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* * *

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* * *

"No actor," declares a contemporary, "is complete without his audience." Or without his 'Era.

* * *

A St. Martin's anomaly—"Just Like Judy" is over, and "Over Sunday" isn't!

* * *

Meanwhile, all's clear at the Savoy. Other plays may come off, but Peter Ibbet's-on.

* * *

Good Actor: "The price of eggs is dropping."
Bad Actor: "Horrible!"

* * *

I am glad the Censor has passed "Tom Trouble." It has saved Tom trouble.

TOUCHSTONE.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.).—"Who's Hooper?" 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.
ALDWYCH (Strand, W.C.).—"Pygmalion," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 2315. Central 7170.
ALHAMBRA (Leicester-sq., W.C.). — "Medorah," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 5064-5. Reg. 2522.
AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"Three Wise Fools," 8.30. Tues. Fri., Sat., 2.45. Gerr. 4460.
APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"Tilly of Bloomsbury," 8. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3243.
COMEDY (Panton-st., S.W.).—"Wild Geese," 8.30. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.15.
COURT (Sloane-sq., S.W.).—"The Young Visiters," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 848.
COVENT GARDEN (Covent Garden, W.C.).—Opera in English nightly. Mat., Sat., 2. Gerr. 640-641.
CRITERION (Coventry-st.). — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.
DALY'S (Leicester-sq.).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 8. Tues., Sat., 2. Gerr. 202.
DRURY LANE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Cinderella," 7.30. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 1.30. Gerr. 2588.
DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Sylvia's Lovers," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 314.
EMPIRE (Leicester-sq.).—"Sunshine of the World," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.
GAIETY (Strand, W.C.).—"The Kiss Call," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2780.
GARRICK (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"Mr. Pim Passes By," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9513.
GLOBE (Shaftesbury-av.).—"The Voice from the Minaret," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 8722.
HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W.1).—"Tea for Three," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.
HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket, S.W.1).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.
KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-st., W.C.2).—"In the Night," 8.30. Mon., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.
LITTLE (John-st., Adelphi).—"Mumsee," 8.15. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 2401.
LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"Afgar," 8.20. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 704-5.
LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.).—"The Bird of Paradise," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3687.
NEW (St. Martin's-lane).—"Carnival," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. "Othello," Wed., 2. Reg. 4466.
OXFORD (Oxford-street, W.). — "The Better 'Ole," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "The Whirligig," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6834.
PARK (Hanwell).—"The Rotters."
PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross, W.C.).—"Home and Beauty," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.
PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-st., W.).—"Bran Pie," 8. Wed., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 7482.
PRINCES (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Pretty Peggy," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3400-1
QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Mr. Todd's Experiment," 8.15. Thurs. Sat., 2.30.
ROYALTY (Dean-street, W.).—"The Admirable Crichton," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30.
ST. JAMES'S (King street, S.W.).—"Julius Cæsar," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3903.
ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2).—"Over-Sunday," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243.
SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Peter Ibbetson," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3366-7.
SCALA (Tottenham Court-rd.).—"When Knights Were Bold," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Museum 6010-11.
SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue, W.C.).—"Baby Bunting," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 6666.
STRAND (Strand, W.C.).—"The Crimson Alibi," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3452-3.
VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C. 2).—"Buzz Buzz," 8.15. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.30 Gerr. 3815.
WINTER GARDEN THEATRE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Kissing Time," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 416.
WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Choice," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Margaret Cooper, Violet Vanbrugh, Haru Onuki, Ethel M. Dell's play, "The Odds," Betty Barclay, and Geo. Glover, 2.30 and 7.35. Gerr. 7541.
HIPPODROME (Leicester-square).—"Joy Bells," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.
PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.). — Geo. Graves, Max Darewski, Wee Georgie Wood, Maidie Scott, Jack Pleasants, Edie Veno, Lucille Benstead, Hill-Ackerman, Flying Banvards, Four Madcaps, 2.30, 6, 8.45. Gerr. 7004.
VICTORIA PALACE (Victoria Station, S.W.).—Brandy Williams, Jack Evelyn, Tucker, Austin Rudd, 6.15 and 8.30.

THEY SAY——

That the late H. B. Irving left a number of plays among his papers.

* * *

That Mrs. Patrick Campbell chose the stage as a refuge from being a governess.

* * *

That Mrs. Martin Harvey invented the title of "The Only Way."

* * *

That Yvonne Arnaud is fond of spending her spare hours at the Zoo.

* * *

That George Grossmith does not intend to introduce musical comedies or revues at the Apollo.

* * *

That Lee White means to resist American temptations and to be "back again" from her tour by Christmas.

* * *

That there will be 50 dancers in Anna Pavlova's troupe.

* * *

That Alma Taylor likes to discard elaborate gowns for simple workaday garb.

* * *

That W. H. Berry prides himself on the rare occasions when illness has kept him away from the theatre.

* * *

That a child once cried out at a benefit performance where Esmé Beringer was reciting, "Send her off, mamma, and ask that man to bring his dogs back!"

* * *

That the child was in a very substantial minority.

* * *

That Clara Butt, who recently wanted a dog, was inundated with offers culminating in one of a pack of St. Bernards.

* * *

That Douglas Fairbanks advocates smiling into your mirror every night before turning out the light.

* * *

That Marguerite Clark's height is 4 feet 10 inches.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

Return of Sir Harry Lauder—Variety Artists and Luggage Transport —Tribute to Vesta Tilley—Alhambra's Next Revue.

Sir Harry Lauder's Return.

Sir Harry and Lady Lauder landed at Plymouth on Monday, on their return from Australia via America. Harry had a real Scottish welcome, because when he stepped ashore from the tender, the band and pipers of the King's Own Scottish Borderers were playing in a number of troops which were just landing on their return from the East. "The sun is shining, the pipes are skirling," said Harry. "I thought I was on my native heath."

To a representative of "The Era" Sir Harry spoke in glowing terms of his experiences in Australia and America, and is looking forward to his coming tour in South Africa. "I am in excellent health," he said. "Why should I not be? I live a simple and plain life, and work very hard, as I have done all my life. When I come back from my three months' tour in Africa, I am going back to Scotland for a rest in the glens, unless someone tempts me to work. I am very easily tempted to work, because I love my work."

While his luggage was being examined at the Customs waiting-room, Sir Harry went across to listen to the pipers and band of the K.O.S.B.'s. "It is just fine," he remarked. "It gives me thoughts of my homeland. The last time I saw the K.O.S.B.'s was at Arras." Late, Sir Harry and Lady Lauder left for London.

Variety Artists' Transport Co.

The inconvenience and annoyance caused by the scarcity of porters and cabs at the London termini on Sundays, when variety artists arrive in large numbers from the provinces, will shortly be remedied by the Variety Artists' Transport Co., a new company, composed of several well-known performers, who have banded themselves together to assist all artists in the transportation of their luggage across London. There will be established a central depôt, where the luggage will be collected, sorted, and dispatched to the various destinations by motor vans and lorries at reasonable charges, all effects being insured free of charge against fire and burglary. Another long-felt want will be the provision of storage room for artists' luggage, with free access to the packages during reasonable hours. Such a scheme, worked on business lines, would appear assured of success if the co-operation of the profession is obtained. The company hope to commence business about Easter. Full particulars will be found on another page.

Alfredo's Air Trip.

The vagabond violinist, Alfredo, was playing in Paris last week, and was due back to open at Chiswick on Monday evening. Owing to the railway strike in France, it seemed certain that he would be unable to arrive in time, but, meeting him in town on Monday, we learned that he had made the return journey by aeroplane.

"Fums Up."

Joe Elvin reminds us that another 100 members are still required for the "Fums Up" Society, and he hopes that his brother and sister artists who have not yet joined will send along for one of the silver and enamelled badges, which cost half a guinea, the membership fee. The objects of "Fums Up" are firstly to give at certain times, such as Christmas, presents to the guests of the profession residing at Brinsworth; secondly, to arrange a river outing for members during the summer; and thirdly, to raise money for the Benevolent Fund and Institution. Mrs. Frederick Thurlow, 4, Ockley-road, Streatham, is the hon. secretary.

Charles Lilburn's Four-in-Hand.

Mr. Charles Lilburn, the comedian, who joined up at the beginning of the war, but on being demobilised was unsuccessful in obtaining an engagement, is appearing this week at the Kilburn Empire, having been engaged by Mr. Charles Gulliver, through Mr. Tom Pacey, whom he wishes through our columns to thank. Mr. Lilburn has adopted a rather novel mode of advertising where he is performing by driving a four-in-hand (ponies), which a gentleman has kindly lent him. These ponies are said to be the smallest in the world.

Death of Fred McNaughton.

The news of the death of the well-known comedian, Mr. Fred McNaughton (of the McNaughtons), who passed away on Tuesday, the 24th, at his residence in Lansdowne-gardens, South Lambeth, after a long illness, has caused deep regret among a large circle of friends. Born in 1869, the deceased appeared with his brother Tom as the McNaughtons at the Sebright, in Hackney, and in 1889 appeared at the Middlesex and other West-End halls, their comedy cross-talk act being always a very successful feature. Together they toured in South Africa and in the United States. When Tom McNaughton went to America in 1909 Fred was joined by Gus Le Claire, and later by Jack Preston. He married Georgina Preston, of the Sisters Preston.

The London, Shoreditch.

The London, Shoreditch, has been sold, the new proprietors taking possession on March 29, and all artists holding contracts for this house should communicate immediately with the appointed booking agents, Peels', Ltd.

Tribute to Vesta Tilley.

Miss Vesta Tilley (Lady de Frece), who to the great regret of her legion of admirers is retiring from the stage after her appearance at the Coliseum at the end of May, is, as our readers are aware, devoting her salary, during her farewell tour, to various charitable organisations connected with women's work, child welfare, &c. It is felt that this act of generosity should not pass unrecognised, and that no better moment than the present could be chosen to offer her some token of appreciation of her genius as an entertainer and her services to charity. It has been decided that an address, signed by all classes of the community, should be presented to Miss Tilley when she bids farewell to the public at the London Coliseum.

A representative committee has been formed, including Lord Lonsdale, Lord Edmund Talbot, Sir Oswald Stoll, Mr. Frank Allen, Mr. R. H. Gillespie, Sir Squire Bancroft, Sir Herbert Morgan, K.B.E., Sir Wm. Bull, Sir Robert Peacock, M.V.O., Sir Alfred Butt, Mr. George R. Sims, Mr. Andre Charlot, Mr. Oscar Asche, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. Robert Courtneidge, Miss Mary Anderson (Mme. de Navarro), Miss Ellen Terry, Miss Irene Vanbrugh, Mr. C. B. Cochran, Mr. Edward Laurillard, Mr. W. S. Gordon Michie, Mr. Arthur Croxton, Mr. Kennedy Jones, M.P., Mr. C. Douglas Stuart, Mr. Albert Voyce, Mr. George Ashton, Mr. J. Davis, Mr. Percy B. Broadhead, Mr. Alfred Dove, &c.

Blank pages for the signatures of those interested will be obtainable at all the leading variety and other theatres in the country, the principal hotels, libraries, &c., and it is hoped that by this means a collection of names representative of the millions who have enjoyed the incomparable art of Miss Vesta Tilley may be obtained.

Engaged.

That dainty young artist, Marjory Fulton, who celebrated her birthday on Monday last, also became engaged to Percy Mayne, of Mayne and Sheridan, on the same day. Congratulations!

"Little Johnny Jones."

George Robey's next appearance at the Alhambra will be in "Little Johnny Jones: Being the Adventures of a Naughty Boy." The book is by Harry M. Vernon, with music by Charles Cuvillier, and lyrics by Clifford Grey. The play is described as "A Robey Salad with Musical Dressing."

Billy Amstell.

Billy Amstell, who will be perhaps best remembered as Bert in "Over the Top," and who was also a member of Fred Karno's and the Bros. Luck companies, has been unable to work for the past seven months owing to paralysis of the spine. His friends have started an appeal in the hope that sufficient money may be forthcoming to set him up in some light business, and all donations sent to Geo. S. Young, 92, Denmark-hill, S.E., will be thankfully received and acknowledged.

A Popular Principal Boy.

Our picture represents Miss Emmelyn Walter, who has been playing principal boy at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, this season. So successful has Miss Walter been on this, her first appearance as Boy, that we hear that she has been re-engaged for next season by Howard and Wyndham. Miss Walter has just concluded a brief tour on the halls in her well-known single act at the Hippo., Nottingham, when she gave four delightful numbers, interspersed with some clever stories. On Friday Emmelyn sails on the Saxon for a three months' season in South Africa, and when she returns, in September next, will make her re-appearance in town at the Syndicate houses.

[*Photo Dobson.*

MISS EMMELYN WALTER.

A Versatile Duo.

George Buchanan and Jack Dorian, who are this week at the Palace, Tottenham, are responsible for an original and versatile turn, and write the words and music of all their numbers. The act includes ballads, rags, impersonations, dancing, and piano playing, Mr. Jack Dorian's impression of George Robey being especially good. Mr. George Buchanan is the composer of the latest successes, "A Secret" (published by Enochs) and "Home Thoughts."

Syd May.

Syd May tells us that he concludes this week a very comfortable 16 weeks' engagement with A. D. M'Farlane's "Bobo" company. Syd was engaged to take the part played by Mr. Will Fyffe whilst he was in pantomime, and as Mr. Fyffe is one of the best revue artists on tour, Syd says his task was no light one. "My hardest number in the show," says Mr. May, "was the portrayal of a drunk, and although mine was only a copy, it went very well. I had no idea it was so difficult. It was my first attempt, either on or off the stage."

Death of C. F. Hedges.

The death is announced of Charles Frederick Hedges, a member of the popular trio of ragtime artists, Hedges Bros. and Jacobsen, who was found dead in bed at his lodgings at Southsea, from gas poisoning.

"Joy-Bells" Wedding.

Miss Dorothy Turner, the principal dancer in "Joy Bells," was married on Thursday at the registry office, Henrietta-street, Strand, to Mr. Douglas M. Ewart, an English merchant engaged in the Chinese trade. The bride was dressed in grey satin, with silver lace trimming, and a squirrel coat. Her hat was of flower-brocaded silk, and she carried a spray of orchids. Following the wedding over 100 guests were entertained at the Embassy Club, in Bond-street, where the bride and bridegroom first met.

The Frank Allen Testimonial.

The testimonial dinner to Mr. Frank Allen will be held at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday evening, March 28.

Rene Ralph.

Miss Rene Ralph, at the conclusion of the pantomime at the Hippodrome, Newcastle, had many lovely presents and flowers, among them a silver trinket box and chocolates from the staff in front of the house. Miss Ralph has been re-engaged by Messrs. Wylie and Tate for principal boy next year. Rene is this week at Victoria Palace.

Miss Lily Eyton.

Miss Lily Eyton, straight from her pantomime success at the Prince's Theatre, Bristol, opened this week at the Chelsea Palace, and is scoring a big success nightly with the two Lawrence Wright numbers, "Egypt, I Am Calling" and "There's a Rose in Repose."

Tom Stuart's Soldiers' Concert.

On Sunday next Tom Stuart is organising his third and last concert for the soldiers. These have proved very successful, and have been greatly appreciated by the boys. Tom has arranged for many well-known artists to appear, and brother or sister artists who would like to support him are asked to communicate with Tom at the Eccentric Club.

Fred Duprez.

The popular monologist, Fred Duprez, who has been appearing in his single act in town at New Cross and Finsbury Park for the past two weeks, commenced a three months' provincial tour at the Palace, Salford, on Monday. Fred will, of course, use his new six-cylinder Buick for the journeys, and we are sure that he will endeavour to beat his recent record of the non-stop run from Birmingham to town within three hours.

Ching Wu in Town.

The Chinese illusionist, Ching Wu, made his reappearance in town last week at the Hackney Empire, where his mystifying entertainment was keenly enjoyed. We hear that Mr. Lee Ephraim has just booked Ching Wu for tours in France, South America, United States, and South Africa. This week Ching Wu is appearing at Hackney, and afterwards goes into the provinces on the Stoll Tour.

"A la Carte."

Arthur Royce and Leonards' production, "A la Carte," will be presented next Monday at the Empire, Woolwich, and it promises to be a very successful one, having, we hear, already been well booked. The cast includes Dave O'Toole, Freddie Wolgast, Dorothy Vaughan, Alice Maude, and the Eight Sunrays.

Gus Harris.

The Hebrew comedian, Gus Harris, who for some time past has been suffering from nose and throat trouble, has this week undergone an operation, and hopes to be well enough to resume his engagements on the L.T.V. next week. After six more weeks in town Gus goes on a four months provincial tour.

George Morton.

At the Hippodrome, Brighton, last week, George Morton, the black-faced comedian, met with much success. He has some good numbers and much entertaining patter, and is in addition a clever dancer. George is playing at the Empire, Glasgow, this week, and will shortly be seen in town.

Barton and Ashley.

That breezy sketch, "Money Talks," presented by John Barton and Anne Ashley on the Stoll tour just now, and seen quite recently at Chiswick, is making a great success everywhere. We are shortly promised a revised version of "Canal Boat Sal," which was the first sketch Barton and Ashley presented in this country, and which proved so popular that managers are asking for it to be revived.

Bain and Hill.

Bain and Hill are at present on the L.T.V. Tour, and are opening at the Empire, Holborn, on March 8, arranged by Harry Goodson, of Day's Agency.

Budd and Clare.

Budd and Clare, American burlesque comedians, who opened recently in town at Golders Green, will reappear in town next week on the Stoll tour, booked through Henderson's Agency.

Miss Alice Hollander.

Miss Alice Hollander is featuring with great success at the Hippodrome, Southampton, Horatio Nicholls' popular ballads, "Oh, Dreams of Long Ago" and "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes."

Iris Lane and Dulcie Dixon.

We hear that Iris Lane and Dulcie Dixon, described as "The Tailor-Made Girls," will shortly be seen in town with their new act. It is being produced for them by their sister, Miss Daisy Taylor, who is at present playing the leading rôle in "Hullo, America!" with such success.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Mr. Andre Charlot has intimated to the committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild that he is paying all the staff expenses, back and front of the house, lighting, &c., in connection with the recent matinée at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to him at the meeting last Wednesday.

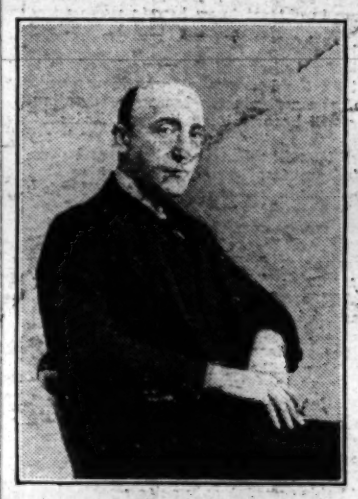
A cheque for £5 has been sent by Miss Ella Shields, who was given this amount, in the form of a bet, for the funds of the Guild, during her recent voyage from the States. Wee Georgie Wood, who fined himself 3 guineas for his non-appearance at the matinée, has forwarded that sum; and an anonymous contribution, under the signature of "Every Little Helps," of 1s. 6d., has been received by Miss Lottie Albert, the hon. treasurer.

Miss Irene Shamrock has been elected a member of the committee, and is thanked for her subscription of 1 guinea. Mrs. Thomas and Miss Perkiss have joined the Guild as ordinary members through the introduction of Miss Melinda May.

HERMAN DAREWSKI'S NEW PREMISES.

The remarkably rapid growth of the Herman Darewski Music Publishing Company has necessitated the opening of new premises in Charing Cross-road, only a few yards distant from the old place of business. The claim that they constitute the finest music store and saloon in the country will not be disputed by those who have made a personal visit. What first strikes the visitor is the size of the building and its adaptability to the purposes for which it is now being used. The handsome saloon in which the ordinary business of the firm is transacted is quite a revelation, and as different from what used to serve as a music publisher's sales-room as can possibly be imagined. Everywhere the eye travels it lights upon sheets of music ranged in neat rows and including all the latest ballads and orchestral compositions. Here, too, is to be noted a novelty in the shape of a band engaged for the purpose of playing selections from the firm's publications. All branches of music are included in this truly wonderful collection. The firm now represents such famous American publishing houses as Leo Feist, J. W. Stern, Irving Berlin, Harry Von Tilzer, Gilbert and Freidland, and many others, while it has the exclusive services of a number of eminent composers, including Max Darewski and Melville Gideon.

In connection with the opening of the new premises Mr. Herman Darewski has introduced a toy specially intended for the delight of the children. This is the singing bird. In the centre of one of the familiar cardboard figures of a thrush or a lark is a little gramophone record (only 4 inches in diameter) of the birds in full song. Mr. Darewski states that there is already a big demand for this novelty, and one thing that makes it so popular is that the record is unbreakable. It can be thrown across the room or jumped on and still play as well as ever. Even when scratched with a knife or bent it is not put out of action.



[*Photo., Whillock, Wolverhampton.*

MR. HERMAN DAREWSKI.

It is worthy of note that contained in the new premises are sound-proof rooms for the trial of gramophone records. The old premises at 142, Charing Cross-road are in future to be used for the professional business of the firm.

At a recent meeting of the Southend Town Council it was decided to let to the Herman Darewski Publishing Company the Happy Valley Bandstand for a term of fourteen years; the first seven at a rental of £450 per annum and the second seven at £500; the lessees to make alterations and improvements at a cost of £4,000, the latter to become the property of the Corporation at the termination of the tenancy.

A contributor to a local journal writes: "It is a matter for congratulation that the firm which has secured the concession is probably the smartest and most up-to-date of musical agencies, and that as an attraction Southend has secured a very valuable ally."

Bon Voyage.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Owen sail from Southampton to-day on the Adriatic for a tour in the U.S.A.

Osborne and Perryer.

Osborne and Perryer paid their seventh visit in eleven months to the London Coliseum last week, a sure proof of the popularity of their entertaining skit, "Seeing the Show." This act, which is always a sure success, is at the Chiswick Empire this week.

Duncan and Godfrey.

In their latest scena, "Tar and Feathers," Minnie Duncan and Arthur Godfrey have found another decided success, due greatly to the fact that Arthur is continually adding fresh items, thus keeping the show right up to date. The latest number, written and composed by Arthur Godfrey and Harry Wincott, and entitled "Every Girlie Likes to Meet a Sailor," has proved a big hit. At the Bedford last Saturday Minnie and Arthur were called upon to deputise for Miss Edie Veno.

Joe Hayman's Activities.

In the autumn Lew Lake will present a big production entitled "Egypt," written by Joe Hayman. The show, which comprises seven scenes, will feature Manny and Roberts, who will be supported by many well-known artists. The same author has written a new sketch for Wilson and Waring for early production. When Joe gives up his music hall engagements at the end of May next he will arrange for his partner—Mildred Franklin—to appear in a new sketch.

Robb Wilton's Next.

Since Robb Wilton made his reappearance on the L.T.V. Circuit recently, after a long absence, he has been meeting with hearty receptions. This week he is top of the bill at Woolwich. When Robb returns to the Victoria Palace at the end of the month he will present an entirely new show entitled "The House Agent," a subject which should enable Robb to give us some useful hints on the housing problem.

Enjoyable Recreation.

The rather strenuous exertions of the ballroom are apt to make one's hair become ruffled and untidy. This will not happen if you rub a little Anzora well into the scalp every morning and carefully brush the hair. You will then be able to part your hair in just the way desired and it will remain in perfect position until bedtime again.

Masters. the Hair

Anzora Cream for slightly greasy scalps, and Anzora Viola for dry scalps, are sold by all Chemists, Hairdressers, Stores, etc., in 1/6 and 2/6 (double quantity) bottles.

ANZORA

Anzora Perfumery Co., Willesden Lane, London N.W.6

Togan and Geneva to Stay.

Making their first appearance in this country last week at Finsbury Park, Togan and Geneva presented an act, described in our last issue, which met with immediate success, and they have been secured for the leading tours through Mr. Geo. Barclay.

Budd and Clare.

Budd and Clare, the Anglo-American burlesque entertainers, after their successful week at the Woolwich Empire, open at the Hackney Stoll Hall next week in the American burlesque, "Scenes at the Ball," booked by Henderson's Agency.

Phyllis du Barry.

At the Hartley Hall, Mill Hill, on Saturday evening next, that clever juvenile artist, Phyllis du Barry, will be one of the prominent features of the entertainment given by the "Chuckles" Concert Party. The proceeds will be given to St. Dunstan's.

Hill-Ackerman Open in Town.

At the Palladium on Monday afternoon a new double act by the name of Hill-Ackerman, hailing from the States, made their first appearance in London. The versatile and original entertainment provided by the clever couple was much appreciated, and the hearty reception which followed their act should make their stay in London a lengthy one.

Will Hay.

Will Hay will conclude a long engagement with Fred Karno as principal comedian in "Moonstruck" and other productions in a few weeks' time. On the 29th inst. he will be seen in a new show in two scenes, to be produced at the South London.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last William Welsh officiated as V.T., Ken. Barton as G.C., Ted Karno as W.I., Eric Edgley as W.D., Harry Bent as Y.B., Wilkie Warren as Organist, and Arthur Were, secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to Albert De Brean upon his reappearance in the Kennel.

Mr. Stanley Granby and Frank Grant (Granby and Grant) were initiated into the mysteries of the order.

The following applications for membership have been received:—Second notice, George Dundas; third notice, Frank Powell and Tom Fagan; final notice, Bert Reid.

The election of officers for March, 1920, resulted as follows:—Harry Bent, W.T.; Walter Norman, V.T.; Organist, Wilkie Warren.

Addresses of the following Terriers are required:—Tom Wana, Charlie Stevens, Eric Winskill, Neville Stone, Leo Sterling, Frank Prince, and Frank Sauteron.

At the banquet, to be held on Good Friday, Terrier Howard Ward will act as musical director.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

MENTAL TELEPATHY AT THE METROPOLITAN—A TIP FOR CUPID—BRANSBY WILLIAMS KEEPS OLD FLAGS FLYING.

At the Metropolitan.

I am a modest person, and to resist conjurers' invitations to step upon the stage and assist them is second nature to me. I do occasionally, however, participate in minor thrills, and I held up my hand last week at the Metropolitan when the Violas were doing their thought-reading act. I wanted Mme. Viola to tell me when I should receive a letter from a sister-in-law in China, and I am sure she could have done it, for she gave information of this kind to some fifty other members of the audience. But my luck was out. I did not come under the speaker's eye, and my sister-in-law's intentions are still a dark mystery to me.

The Violas are a remarkable couple. The lady is blindfolded, and the man threads his way through the audience, receiving their requests. A motherly soul is told by the blindfolded one, "You are thinking of a boy. Your son. His name is George. He is in Turkey. Constantinople. You will hear from him in a day or two." A bashful youth hears this: "You are thinking of a girl. Her name is Alice. You will see her very soon." Confederates? Not this time. You can plant two or three confederates about the house, but you cannot plant fifty. The difference between these mental telepathists and some others is that your comment is not "How clever!" but "How astonishing!"

I have been practising mental telepathy without success, but the test act by Dolly Elsworthy is less severe. "You Must Turn a Winkle Upside Down to Stand it on its Head," she sang, and when next I trap a winkle I shall do it. This song is about as popular with the audience as Ernie Mayne's "Where Do Flies Go in the Winter-time?"—and Dolly had a big reception. By gradual degrees the halls are teaching us natural history, and we may shortly receive further information in such songs as "Is It Safe to Sneeze upon a Bumble-Bee in June?" and "If You Slip a Scallop Down Your Back How Soon Will It Slip Out?"

Two other singers who scored big successes were Rosie Reys and Eddie Mayo. I do not think I have ever heard "An Old-Fashioned Lady" sung better than Rosie Reys sang it, and the applause was tremendous, but I awarded the palm myself to "Roll On, Thou Deep Blue Sea." With all deference to the big hits of the moment, I like to see a star "mixing them," and taking risks on songs less certain to score. Be it added that all Rosie Reys' risks came off.

Eddie Mayo, the American rag-time composer, was very lively, though the curtain rose upon him sitting disconsolately at a table and complaining that "Many's the Time I Feel So Lonesome." Now I heard Dainty Doris make this same complaint an hour later at the Kilburn Empire, and if Cupid knows his business, here's a rare chance. Eddie is a most fascinating youth (and lonely). Doris, very assuredly, is dainty (and lonely). Need one say more?

I am afraid my faculty for potting sketches is not up to reducing "The Morning After" to six lines. Suffice it to say that a well-meaning man offends his mother-in-law by passing an actress off as his niece, who loves his friend, which upsets his wife—well, suffice it to say that it is an amusing sketch amusingly acted by Alfred Woods, Maud Williamson and Co. For the rest, see book of words.

A rollicking performance was given by a number of clever children in Harry Burns' "Syncopated Schooldays." *I* liked the sheer good-humoured tomfoolery best, but the majority of the audience stuck conservatively to the time-honoured favourites, and chief honours went to Dick Owen for his singing of "I Passed By Your Window."

At the Kilburn Empire.

With applause ringing in my ears, I tripped across a small slice of London and came to port in a front-row stall at the Kilburn Empire, where a beautiful lady and a cheeky youth were hurling things into the air and toying with weights. That is to say, the beautiful lady was doing these things, the cheeky youth merely justifying his adjective. The programme described them as "Damsel and Boy," and not till the end of the neat performance did you discover that the beautiful lady was the Boy, and the cheeky youth the Damsel.

Hal Wright came next. I give him a miss because I have said nice things about him lately, and I give the Marvellous Jees a miss for a similar reason. This brings me to the musical scena "One Fleeting Hour," which was new to me. It is an elaborate production, the performers taking one back to the powdered-wig period, and some of the items are of a good deal more than average merit. Douglas Kirk was particularly fine, and has an effective baritone-bass voice. Albert Vivian Peake (violin), Patricia Flanagan (flute), and Barbara Bright (mezzo-contralto) also drew enthusiastic applause.

I have already referred to Dainty Doris, whose ruthless beauty, I imagine, did a lot of damage in the front rows. Leslie Elliot, the popular girl at the piano, sings with astonishing vim and spirit, a very amusing song being "Hey, for the Life of a Hactress!"

And then came fifteen minutes with a rare flavour in them, supplied by Bransby Williams.

In the old days Bransby used to give set imitations. Now he introduces them here and there, as by-products of his character "Uncle John's" conversation. Uncle John is a genial English squire, with an eyeglass, a rich voice, and (one feels convinced) an affection for old port. Indeed, he gives Lady Astor and the anti-drinkites many sly digs, barks fiercely at the profiteer, imitates Asquith and Lloyd George and sundry others, and pokes you constaptly in those special ribs where you like to be poked. His performance is finished and delightful, and not the least notable point in it is his attempt, through imitations of departed geniuses, to keep old flags flying.

EXTRA TURN.

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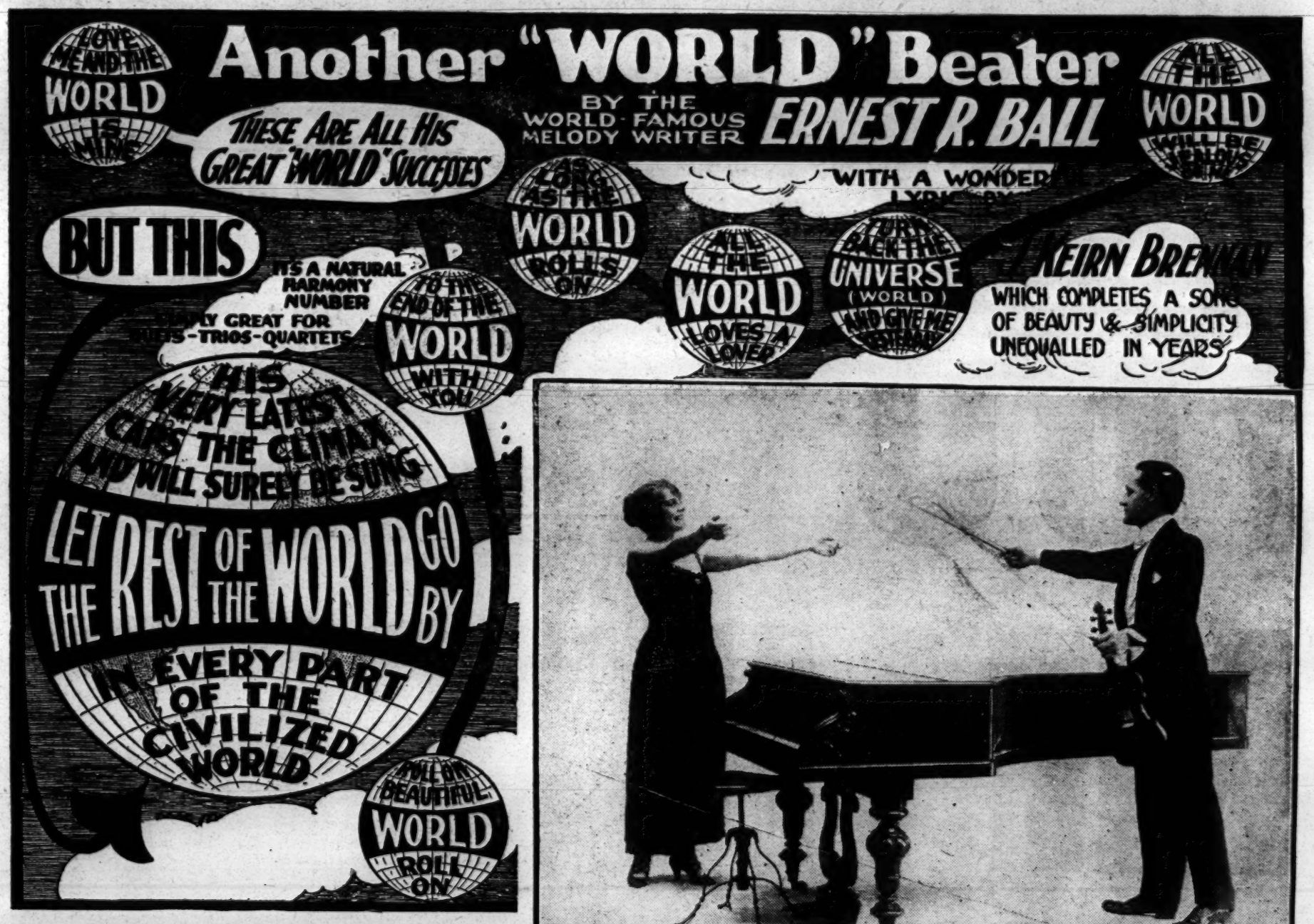
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WITH A WONDER
BUT THIS
IT'S A NATURAL HARMONY NUMBER
EASILY GREAT FOR DUETS-TRIOS-QUARTETS
TO THE END OF THE WORLD WITH YOU
ALL THE WORLD LOVES A LOVER
AND GIVE ME
KEIRN BRENNAN
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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

Chief among the new items at the Coliseum this week is a one-act play by the celebrated authoress, Ethel M. Dell, entitled "The Odds." It is a thrilling little episode in the life of an Australian bush-ranger, Buckskin Bill, who had taken to wicked ways, and was in consequence hunted by his fellow-men. Bill is a personable man with attractive manners, and saves the life of a "new chum," Dot Burton, when she is bitten by a poisonous snake. Dot is looking after her brother's farm in his absence, with the help of a delightful old English sheep dog. The girl mistakes Bill for the man intent on his capture, and only realises her mistake when Brother Jack and the other man return. She hides the fugitive, and enables him to escape. He goes, vowing to give up his old life and come back some day to claim his deliverer.

Miss Amy Brandon-Thomas gave a very spirited performance as the courageous Dot, and Mr. Athole Stewart was sympathetic and earnest as Bill.

Betty Barclay and her accomplished partner, George Glover, are back again in their amusing and neatly written flirting duets, to the joy of their many admirers; and the bewitching Haru Onuki met with a tumultuous welcome on her reappearance. A good turn is provided this week by Suther in a one-man musical revue, the musician showing himself to be also a quick-change artist, appearing in different national costumes to play appropriate airs on different instruments with marvellous rapidity.

Miss Margaret Cooper in an exquisite frock of black and white is singing and playing as enchantingly as ever. Mutt and Jeff are causing the house to roar with their quaint antics; Knapp and Cornalla, that clever pair of comedy entertainers, are at the top of their form; while the Yamayama Troupe of entertainers in their marvellous acrobatic display are worth going a long way to see.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh in Michael Orme's exciting one-act play, "Great Aunt Elizabeth," also remains in the bill.

THE PALLADIUM.

George Graves and company occupy a prominent place on the bill here with that gem of farcical comedy, "The Key of the Flat," in which the famous comedian gags in his own inimitable manner, much to the delight of the audience. Jack Pleasants sings "Feeding the Ducks on the Pond," and, with a fair partner, "If You've Got a Little Bit of Love That's Sleeping"; and Lucille Benstead, the popular vocalist, gains loud applause for her rendering of "Love Sends a Little Gift of Roses," "Angus Macdonald," and "Coming Home." Maidie Scott, in her own piquant style, gets all the humour possible out of "If the Managers Only Thought the Same as Mother," "I Hope It Keeps Fine for Mother," and "You Never Can Tell—Can You?" Edie Veno was deputised for by Tucker, whose act was as big a success as ever. Max Darewski's finely played pianoforte selections got hearty applause. The Flying Banvards, sensation comedy gymnasts, open the bill successfully, and the Four Madcaps, including Tiny Zella, all clever little ladies in a delightful dancing act, are well received. Wee Georgie Wood makes one of the decided hits of the evening in his comedy sketch, supported by Dolly Harmer. His burlesque work as Leader of the Black Hand Gang is excellent, and he creates roars of laughter with his female impersonation, "There's Nothing Like That About Me," and his "Cabby" number. The Delson Trio, comedy acrobats, and the Hill-Ackerman Duo in "Snonsense," an American trick act, complete the fine programme.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

There is a first-class programme here this week, a great favourite being Ernie Mayne, whose racy humour is keenly enjoyed. On Monday he gave "Eggs and Bacon for My Breakfast," "We Cling Like the Ivy on the Old Garden Wall," followed by "Dear Old Mother," and was accorded a hearty reception. Haidie de Rance is a charming violinist, and admirably supported by "Hero" at the piano, her delightful act won much approval. The Flemings are a very artistic creation in alabaster. After a fine selection of statuary they do some wonderful hand-balancing. Little Tich, as usual, created much merriment with "Presented at Court" and other numbers; and Duncan and Godfrey were also great favourites as the popular Cockney sailor and his lass on their wedding day. Mooney and Holbein are very pleasing in "The Wonderful Days to Come" and a fund of jokes; Daisy Dormer sings delightfully in her own chic way "You'd be Surprised" and a "Wonderful Pal of Mine," closing her turn with a cowboy dance. Betancourt, a French Cuban wonder, does some startling balancing on chair and tables, some fine baton turning, and everything you can think of with a rifle except firing it—altogether a very clever act; and Frank Powell and the Bioscope complete the strong bill.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

One of the most amusing turns in the programme this week is that supplied by Rosa Loader and Tom Laney. In addition to having an excellent singing voice and playing the concertina and piano with great skill, Rosa Loader is a genuinely funny comedienne, and her amusing remarks and patter, combined with the droll, queer way she uses her eyes, keep her audience laughing all the time. Another good item in the evening's amusement is that of the Martinis, two men and a lady. One of the men has an excellent singing voice, and his partner and the lady give a graceful exhibition of the Jazz, the Tango Waltz and the Parisian One-Step, concluding with a short travesty entitled "Me and My Girl."

Among the vocal turns must be mentioned Wilfred Burnard, an artist with a pronounced ability for characterisation, who is equally successful as Major Pott, an old military swell, Simple Simon Hyman, a Jewish impersonation, and an old rustic with an amusing song entitled "You Can't Do That With a Woman." Vera Caine gives a remarkable exhibition of ball-punching, and Dolly Elsworthy has two very amusing songs entitled "You Must Turn a Winkle Upside Down to Stand it on its Head" and "Old Bill's Come 'Ome," both of which she sings with great vim and go.

Olive Fox and Clarkson Rose provide an amusing little musical sketch that goes well, and Daisy Jerome, the clever and original discuse, is very successful with two songs called "Press, Pulpit and Petticoat" and "A Lady Born and Bred." The evening concludes with a diverting Jewish sketch, "The Meanest Man on Earth," the leading part in which is excellently played by Mr. Naylor Grimson, who has a specially unctuous form of humour.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Chung Wu heads the bill here, with a distinctly effective entertainment. There is always a spirit of mysticism in the Celestial juggling acts, and Chung Wu's is marked by many clever feats, set in a particularly fine fit-up. Will Gardner's quaint style greatly pleased the audience, and he extracted rare fun out of his "Camouflage" and "One Man League of Nations" numbers. Renee and Godfrey also present a novelty, for both are skilful dancers. One of them performs on a violin, at the same time giving a variety of dances, ranging from the sailor's hornpipe to the equally familiar "Transformation" movement. Both artists are extremely good.

Penrose and Whitlock are a pair of the "Real Old English Gentleman" type, and caused much laughter with many good gags. The Poluski Brothers, in "Army H.Q.," got right home with their very funny gags and business. Leslie Elliott, "The Girl at the Piano," gave a couple of good numbers, in particular "Oh, Cecil!" and Millie Jillson is a clever little dancer. Hal Bert was out of the bill on Monday, owing to indisposition. His place was taken by Hennin and Freer, with a crisp cross-talk act.

NEW ACTS OF THE WEEK.

THE STRADELLAS.

Type ..... Song Scena
Time ..... Twelve Minutes
Required ..... Half Stage

A musical turn that promises to attain considerable popularity is that of the Stradellas, who opened at the Granville on Monday evening. The programme description of them—"Two ladies with a gorgeous setting"—does not overstate the case. Indeed, their quaintly designed costumes and the staging are both colourful and highly effective. Excellent contralto vocalists, their musical numbers, which included two ragtimes, "Rock-a-bye Baby" and "When the Harvest Moon is Shining," are given with point, and in a manner that proved very taking, and they were accorded a most enthusiastic reception.

The late Mr. Henry T. Downs, manager of the Royal Hippodrome, Belfast, left £3,264.

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ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Monday morning in each week?]

PLAYS.

Aladdin (Arnold).—March 1, Princes, Blackburn.
Aladdin (Gribbeen).—March 1, T.R., Yarmouth.
Allington Charsley Opera Co.—March 1, G., West Hartlepool; 8, R., Seaham Harbour.
Arlette.—March 1, R., Dewsbury; 8, R. C., Wigan.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Swift). — March 1, Grand, Pentre.
Baynton (Henry) Shakespeare Co.—March 1, T.R., Worthing; 8, Court, Warrington.
Belle of New York.—March 1, E., Swindon; 8, Grand, Croydon.
Betty.—March 1, Woolwich; 8, Windsor.
Billeted.—March 1, T.R., Canterbury; 8, T.R., Winchester.
Bird of Paradise.—March 8, Lyc., Sheffield.
Boy, The.—March 1, Dumfries and Whitehaven; 8, Workington and Kendal.
Brewster's Millions.—March 1, Brixton T.; 8, G., Luton.
Bubbly.—March 1, Hip., Derby; 8, T.R., Exeter.
Butterfly on the Wheel.—March 1, Hip., Rugby; 8, Pal., Maidstone.
Cæsar's Wife.—March 1, T.R., Leamington; 8, Art., Woolwich.
Cash on Delivery.—March 1, East Ham; 8, Euston, N.
Chalmers Mackey.—March 1, Alexandra, Widnes; 8, Royalty, Barrow-in-Furness.
Charley's Aunt.—March 1, Royal, Aldershot.
Chinese Puzzle.—March 1, T.R., Rotherham.
Chu Chin Chow. — March 1, Lyc., Edinburgh; 8, Olym., Liverpool.
Chu Chin Chow (Red).—March 1, G., Oldham; 8, G., Oldham.
Cinderella (Hart and Harris).—Hip. Bolton.
Cinderella Man (Butt).—March 1, T.R., Nottingham; 8, H.M.T., Aberdeen.
Curse of the Black Pearl.—March 1, Met., Glasgow; 8, E., Spennymoor.
Curse of Marriage.—March 8, Palace, Newcastle.
Custody of the Child.—March 1, R., Sacriston.
Daddalums.—March 1, W.G., New Brighton.
Daddies.—March 1, Reading; 8, Aldershot.
Daddy Long-Legs.—March 1, Pav., Ayr; 8, Perth T., Perth.
Dear Brutus.—March 1, G., Southampton; 8, Grand, Southampton.
Diplomacy.—March 1, Pal. Pier, Brighton; 8, Princes, Portsmouth.
Discharged with Honour.—March 1, Pal., Watford.
Disgraced.—March 1, T.R., West Bromwich; 8, Emp., New Tredegar.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep. Co.—March 28, Court, Cookstown.
D'Oyly Carte.—March 1, C., Liverpool; 8, C., Liverpool.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—March 1, H.M., Carlisle; 8, Hip., Darlington.
Eyes of Youth.—March 1, Grand, Derby; 8, Emp., Preston
Fair and Warmer (Macdonald and Young). —March 8, Chester.
Female Hun.—March 1, Birkenhead; 8, T.R., Chester.
Five Nights.—March 1, O.H., Torquay; 8, Pav., Newquay (3).
Freedom of the Seas (Brasher).—March 1, Rushden and Wellingborough; 8, G., Wellington.
Full Steam Ahead.—March 1, Hip., Ilkeston.
General Post.—March 1, O.H., Middlesbrough; 8, Pav., Grimsby.
Girl from Ciro's.—March 1, O.H., Middlesbro'; 8, Gainsboro' (3), Bury St. Edmunds (3).
Gipsy Love (J. A. E. Malone).—March 11, T.R., York (3).
Going Up (Macdonald and Young).—March 1, York; 8, Barnsley.
Grumpy.—March 1, New T., Salisbury; 8, Barnstaple (3), Bridgwater (3).
Hill-Mitchelson, E., Rep. Co.—March 1, T.R., Jarrow; 8, P's, Bradford.
His Little Widows.—March 1, T.R., Chatham
His Little Widows (Macdonald and Young). — March 1, Burton; 8, New Brighton
Hobson's Choice.—March 1, Grand, Luton.
House That Jack Built (Levy and Cardwell).—March 1, O.H., Scarborough; 8, T.R., Jarrow.
Ignorance.—March 1, Pal., Newcastle-on-Tyne; 8, Junc., Manchester.
In the Night Watch.—March 1, T.R., Bolton.
Irish Players.—March 1, Hip., Northampton; 8, Rotunda, Liverpool.
Kiss Call (Butt).—March 1, O.H., Belfast; 8, Gaiety, Dublin.
La Poupée.—March 1, T.R., Gloucester; 8, T.R., Swindon.
Law Divine (H. V. Esmond).—March 1, T.R., Bury St. Edmunds (3); 4, St. Albans (3); 8 New. Cardiff.
Lilac Domino (Butt)—March 1, T.R., Plymouth; 8 P's, Bristol.
Lilac Domino (Macdonald and Young). —March 1, Worcester; 8, Dudley.
Little Bit of Fluff.—March 8, Emp., Wakefield.
Little Women.—March 1, O.H., Leicester; 8, County, Reading.
Luck of the Navy (South).—March 2, Eastbourne; 8, Ramsgate.
Luck of the Navy (North). — March 1, Wakefield; 8, Mansfield.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald and Young).—March 1, Lancaster; 8, Accrington.
Maid of the Mountains (South Co.).—March 8, Burton.
Merry Widow (J. A. E. Malone). March 8, T.R., York (3).
Milestones (Platt and Eaton). — March 1, Wimbledon; 8, King's, Hammersmith.
Miss Lancashire, Ltd.—March 1, Alex., Pontefract.
Naughty Wife.—March 1, T.R., Rochdale; 8, T.R., Ashton-under-Lyne.
Nothing But the Truth (Miller).—March 1, New, Cardiff; 8, T.R., Chatham.
Nurse Benson.—March 1, Corn Ex., Chelmsford; 4, Vic., Kettering; 8, Pal., Westcliff.
Oh! Betsy.—March 1, Grand, Stockton; 8, Eden Th., Bishop Auckland.
Oh! Joy (A Co.).—March 1, Bath; 8, Portsmouth.
O'Mara Opera Co.—March 1, Gaiety, Dublin.
Our Mr. Hepplewhite.—March 1, O.H., Blackpool; 8, H.M.T., Carlisle.
Our Peg (George Edwardes).—March 1, P.O.W., Birmingham; 8, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Peg o' My Heart.—March 1, Chesterfield; 8, Stockton.
Peg o' My Heart (Ralland and Cameron). —March 1, T.R., Castleford; 8, Grand, Nelson.
Puggles Grows Up.—March 1, Pav., Wellington, Salop; 8, Pav., Weymouth.
Purple Mask (King and Clark).—March 1, Court, Wigan; 8, T.R., Norwich.
Quaker Girl.—March 1, T.R., Windsor.
Raye and Dare Rep.—March 1, Electric T., Melbourne, Derby; 8, Electric T., Melbourne, Derby.
Ridding Opera Co.—March 1, T.R., Birtley; 8, Emp., Longton.
Ruined Lives.—March 1, Hippo., Chesterfield.
Scarlet Pimpernel (Neilson and Terry).—March 1, R., Bury; 8, O.H., Middlesbrough.
Seven Days' Leave.—March 1, Hip., Leigh; 8, Queen's, Manchester.
Sherlock Holmes.—March 1, Pier, Eastbourne; 8, Princess's, Crayford.
Sign of the Cross.—March 1, Borough, Stratford; 8, Pal., Gloucester.
Sinbad the Sailor (Hanley).—March 1, Col., Ilkeston.
Soiled.—March 1, King's, Colne.
Soldier Boy (Macdonald and Young).—March 1, Stockton; 8, Keighley.
Southern Maid.—March 1, T.R., Halifax; 8, T.R., Bury.
Tails Up.—March 1, T.R., Exeter.
Temporary Gentleman.—March 1, Hip., Richmond.
Three Weeks.—March 1, G., Doncaster; 8, Q., Worcester.
The Jeffersons.—March 1, New Pal., Radcliffe; 8, Pav., Northwich.
Tiger's Cub.—March 1, Pal., Llanelly.
Tilly of Bloomsbury.—March 1, T.R., Hanley; 8, O.H., Leicester.
Toto.—March 1, Pal. T., Tynemouth; 8, Emp., W. Hartlepool.
Trilby (Neilson-Terry).—March 1, P.G., Folkestone; 8, Wimbledon.
Uncle Sam (Macdonald and Young).—March 1, New T., Oxford; 8, G., Swansea.
Unseen Hand.—March 1, Imp. P., Rhymney.
Victory (Barclay and Lister).—March 1, O.H., Cheltenham; 8, T.R., Rochdale.
Wagner and Scarden Rep. Co.—March 1, T.R., West Bromwich; 8, Emp., New Tredegar.
Week-End, A.—March 1, Hip., Huddersfield; 8, T.R., Dewsbury.
What Every Woman Wants.—March 1, Pav., Chepstow.
Who's Hooper? (Butt).—March 1, G., Leeds; 8, Grand, Hull.
Yellow Ticket.—March 1, Darlington; 8, G., Lancaster.
Yes, Uncle (Geo. Dance's South Co).—March 1, T.R., St. Helens; 8, T.R., Leamington.

REVUES.

All Aboard.—March 1, T.R., Westcliff; 8, O.H., Kidderminster.
Any Lady.—March 8, T.R., Bolton.
Buzz Along.—March 1, G., Blackpool; 8, Playhouse, Faversham.
Buzz Buzz.—March 1, Grand, Blackpool; 8, Huddersfield.
Ching Ching.—March 1, Lawn T., Skegness; 8, Hippo., Yarmouth.
Far East.—March 1, Chiswick E.; 8, Chatham.
Heads or Tails.—March 1, Hip., Mexborough; 8, H.M., Walsall.
Hustle.—March 1, E., Glasgow; 8, Liverpool.
It's Champion, Isn't It?—March 1, Gem T., Maesteg; 8, Emp., Perth.

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Dixon, Miss Emmie
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Douglas, Mr. Oswald
Draycott, Mr. W.
Du Cann, Capt.
Edwards, Mr. Sam
Egerton, Miniature Marie
Eide, Miss Lily
Elborn, Miss Isobel
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Esardo, Bros.
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Fasan, Mr.
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Lyle, Miss Ruby
Lyndon, Miss Pearl
Mabel and Bert
MacKenzie, Mr. Norman
Macer, Mr. Tom
McCay, Miss Ruth
McMurray, Mr. G. E.
MacVean, Mr. Jock
Mainbridge, Mr.
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Osman, Miss Gladys
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Paule, Miss Jeanne
Peach, Miss M. A.
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Peters, Mrs.
Pink, Mr. Wal
Pinnock, Mr. Stanley
Piquo, Mr. H.
Poel, Mr. William
Powel, Mr. William
Prim, Miss Pauline
Quartermaine, Mr. Allan
Rae, Miss Doris
Rake, Mr. B.
Ramsay, Mr. J. Nelson
Rappo, Messrs., & Ella
Ray, Miss Gabriel
Raymond, Mr. Ray
Rea, Mr. C. H. E.
Reeves, Miss Millie
Reid, Mr. F. W.
Renaud, Mr. Ives
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Stone, Miss Lottie
Stoodley, Miss Emma
Strong, Mr. Mark
Suckley, Mr. Cramer
Swanston, Mr. Arthur
Talbot, Mr. Howard
Tane, Miss Hettie
Taylor, Miss Maidie
Temple, Miss M.
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Terris, Miss Ellaline
Tetrazzini, Madame
Teyte, Miss M.
Thomas, Miss Amy Brandon
Thomas, Miss Queenie
Thomas, Miss B.
Thonll, Miss Ivy
Thorndike, Miss Sybil
Thorne, Mr. E.
Tindell, Miss Ivy
Titheradge, Miss Madge
Tooze, Mrs. Frank
Towell, Mr. Alf H.
Travers, Mr. Lester
Trehearne, Miss Kitty
Tulley, Mr. Richard
Time, Mr. Roland F.
Ufer, Mr. Richard
Vallarino, Miss Ida
Vere, Miss Grace
Verity, Miss Agnes
Villier, Miss Phyllis
Vincent, Mr. W. G.
Vuire and Colley
Waring, Mr. H. B.
West, Mr. Harry B.
Whitcliff Ten Trio
White, Mr. Billy
Whyte, Mr. A.
Wilby, Mr. F. L.
Wilding, Mr. Harry
Wilkshire, Mr. V.
William, Mr. H. G.
Williams, Mr. Grafton
Williams, Mr. R. A. F.
Willis, Mr. Hubert
Wilson, Mr. Joseph
Wingfield, Mr. Conway
Wingfield, Mrs. E. F.
Wingrove, Mrs. I.
Worth, Miss Mammie
Zasma, Mr. Harry

Mr. Henry Nunn, a former proprietor of the Colchester Theatre Royal, which was burned down during the war, died on Sunday night. In his younger days he appeared on the stage in leading parts. The deceased was 85 years of age.

The fiftieth performance of "Medorah" at the Alhambra will take place to-morrow (Thursday).

Kissing Time.—March 1, Newcastle; 8, T.R., Newcastle.
Lads of the Village.—March 1, Pal., Chelsea; 8, Pal., East Ham.
Moonstruck.—March 1, Regent, Salford; 8, Tivoli, New Brighton.
Mumming Birds.—March 1, Hip., Poplar; 8, G., Clapham.
My Son Sammy.—March 1, E., S. Shields; 8, King's, Gateshead.
Na-Poo.—March 1, G., Mansfield; 8, Hip., Accrington.
Nights of Gladness.—March 1, Pal., Tottenham.
Odds On.—March 8, Hip., Seacombe.
Redheads.—March 1, Darwen; 8, T.R., Macclesfield.
Red Moon.—March 1, Hip., Devonport; 8, Jubilee Hall, Weymouth.
Revels.—March 1, E., Kilburn.
Same to You.—March 1, Emp., Swansea; 8, Hip., Birkenhead.
Splinters.—March 1, Hip., Nottingham; 8, O.H., St. Helens.
Stunts.—March 1, Wolverhampton; 8, Coliseum, Glasgow.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—March 1, T.R., Stockport; 8, T.R., Darlington.
Tip-Top.—March 1, E., Nottingham.
What a Lad.—March 1, Hippo., Burslem; 8, Queen's, Farnworth.
What Next?—March 1, Lowestoft; 8, Hip.

Miss Anne Beaufort, who will be remembered as the blind street singer in "The Willow Tree," at the Globe, intends giving a series of dramatic recitals at the Æolian Hall, owing to the success of similar recitals which she has given during the past ten months. The dates fixed are the afternoons of March 9 and 25, the evening of April 14, and the afternoon of May 5.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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—*Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

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NOTES FROM A THEATRE-GOER'S DIARY.

On the top of a bus the other day I met an old friend whom I had not seen since we were in Flanders. We fixed up to dine and do a theatre together. Not having a theatre list with us on the bus, we decided to go to the first Play advertised on the first bus we met. It was—but never mind. The point is that bus publicity helps the Public and helps the Theatres.

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"Then I decided to try her with Dr. Cassell's Tablets, which had once cured me. In quite a short time there was improvement. She had been very nervous, but after giving her the Tablets that disappeared. Her strength returned, she began to eat with a relish, and steadily she improved till soon she was running about again. Now she is a fine little girl of six, as bright and active as any child could be."

Violet Hope.

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"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

A WORD TO MARY PICKFORD.

GOOD-BYE TO THE RAGAMUFFIN ROLE.

WHEN is Mary Pickford going to give up playing the ragamuffin parts which her later producers seem to think allow fuller scope for her genius than any other rôle? The sight of the popular film star, clad in rags, and indulging with apparent zest in the unlovely pranks of the guttersnipe, may possibly have not been altogether unpleasing to her admirers, in her first film or two of this kind, since it proved to the world that she could be as convincing and realistic in these rôles as she could in "pretty" parts. But lately her producers have confined her wholly to ragamuffin and "baby" parts, and the British public, who have a very real affection for Mary—as we have ourselves—are beginning to resent it. When is she going to reappear in the exquisite girl rôles she was wont to delight us in, or in the big emotional parts in which we believe she has no equal anywhere? We could name half a dozen films of the past which induce us to this view, but her performances in "Madam Butterfly" and in "Hearts Adrift" will suffice. In our opinion, brilliant though she is in comedy rôles, her art is essentially sad, leaving the after-smart of tears in the eyes of the observers, and, in their hearts, an appreciation of what the poet Burns calls "the true pathos and sublime of human life."

What a "Juliet" she would make, and what a convincing impersonator of the character of the ill-starred Amy Robsart!

THE LITTLE CANADIAN GENIUS.

Why do we deal with this matter in a leading article? Because we Britishers have a right to be proud of this little Canadian girl whose genius sways the world, and is such that America—out of her vast population—has never been able to discover a single American actress who has reached, or deserved, anything like the salary Mary receives. And, therefore, we say that the British public have a right to demand that her producers should "feature" her in the great emotional rôles in which she first proved her powers, and should leave the ragamuffin parts, and the "silly kid" rôles, to her dozens of fluffy imitators who seem to imagine that if they only let down their hair, put up their frocks, and give a dental display throughout five reels, the public will acclaim them as her compeers.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

Broadwest Activities—Finchley's New Cinema—Tournament of Roses Filmed.

Broadwest's Big Deal.

Broadwest's, the well-known British firm, have, we hear, taken over the entire control of the Windsor Film Co. The Windsor Studios, which are situated in the Bromley Road, Catford, comprise a glass studio which measures 100ft. by 50ft., an outdoor studio which is equally as large, and a dark studio. The necessary lighting for interior work is supplied by two huge engines of 350 h.p., and all modern equipment required for picture-making is being installed.

Although the deal was only completed last week, Mr. Walter West has wasted no time, and already a small army of workmen have commenced operations on the renovating and repair work, which will, Mr. West asserts, make these the finest studios on this side of the Atlantic. Taking will be commenced immediately the alterations are completed, and every production emanating from the Catford Studios will be supervised by Mr. West. When work is in full swing at the Broadwest Studios it is estimated that 75,000ft. of negative film, and approximately 20,000,000ft. of positive, will be utilised by this company in twelve months.

Madge Titheradge: Pilot.

Miss Madge Titheradge, the Samuelson star, is, we hear, becoming proficient in the ancient and honourable art of navigation. In the course of the filming of "Her Story," a photo-drama in which she is being directed by Mr. G. B. Samuelson, Miss Titheradge piloted a Pacific freighter a great part of the way between Los Angeles and San Francisco, California. The star took a keen interest in the science of navigation, and was tutored by Capt. Olaf Tiejen, a veteran skipper of the South Pacific.

New Cinema at Finchley.

The new Bohemia Cinema de Luxe in Regent's Park-road, Church End, Finchley, is to be opened to-morrow evening by the well-known film actress, Miss Malvina Longfellow, whose film, "Thelma," by Marie Corelli, will be shown. The new hall, which is in the Renaissance style, is approached by a handsome and spacious lounge, tea room, and vestibule. A high-class orchestra has been engaged.

Mary Odette.

Through the courtesy of the British Actors' Film Co., Miss Mary Odette has, we hear, been specially engaged, through Mr. Sidney Jay, to star in the next production of the Anglo-Hollandia Film Co. in Holland.

"Her Benny."

A signal honour was conferred on Granger's at their trade show of "Her Benny," held at the Peter-street Picture House, Manchester, last week. The show was one of the largest and most representative that had taken place in Manchester. Not only were representatives of the trade from Manchester and surrounding districts in full force, but from all over Lancashire, Cheshire, and neighbouring counties they came to see this essentially northern feature. Prominent amongst many influential Mancheste. people were the Lord and Lady Mayoress, who were accompanied by many civic notabilities. They followed the Liverpool story of child-life with the utmost attention, and were charmed with the excellent pictorial representations of Liverpool, its docks and streets, which form so great a feature of the play. Asked his opinion of Granger's "Her Benny" afterwards, the Lord Mayor said how much he had appreciated the play, and hoped it would be his pleasure to see many more similarly great pictures of Northern life rendered pictorially upon the film.

Cinema Building "At Own Risk."

Correspondence has passed between the Preston Town Council and a firm of solicitors with regard to the erection of the Star Cinema Theatre, Corporation-street, Preston, having regard to the powers of local authorities under the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, prohibiting the construction of works or buildings which might interfere with the building of dwelling-houses. The Corporation has informed the solicitors that although it has not yet decided to take formal steps under the Act, it must be understood that if the clients decide to proceed with the erection of the building, they will do so at their own risk, in view of the possibility of the Corporation deciding to subsequently take steps under the Act.

"At the Mercy of Tiberius."

The Tournament of Roses, the magnificent annual festival of California, served a double purpose this year. It was filmed for a G. B. Samuelson photo-drama, and is to be seen when "At the Mercy of Tiberius" is shown on the screen. Officials of the pageant of flowers diverted the line of march so that the procession would pass before a battery of Samuelson cameras. "At the Mercy of Tiberius," which is soon to be released, is a Samuelson adaptation of the novel by Augusta Evans Wilson. It is nearing completion under the direction of Mr. Fred Leroy Granville, with Miss Peggy Hyland in the starring rôle.

"Lorna Doone."

The big British production, "Lorna Doone," was produced for Butcher's Film Service, Ltd., by Mr. H. Lisle Lacoque—a producer of world-wide repute. Mr. Lacoque and his company spent months in Exmoor, and here they produced the different scenes that are closely associated with the story, visiting Blundell's School, Tiverton, Bagworthy Woods, Oare Church, and all the other old-world spots.

Publicity Agent London Area. A. O. GARDENER, Lonespar Lewis Road, Sutton—Surrey.

Miss Temple Bell.

Visitors to the cinema will be able to see Marie Corelli's novel, "God's Good Man," filmed by the Stoll Company under the direction of Maurice Elvey. The portrait we reproduce is Miss Temple Bell, who plays the part of Cicely, and was highly

[*Photo. Elwin Neame, Ltd.*

MISS TEMPLE BELL.

complimented for her excellent acting and beautiful dancing. She has commenced filming again, and is playing the part of Ethel in "The Newcomes," which is being produced by Mr. Fred Goodwin for the Ideal Film Renting Co.

"The Cotton Industry."

The Walturdaw Co., Ltd., have a film of great interest in "The Cotton Industry," showing the processes of spinning, weaving, and making-up, from the raw material to the finished garment. This picture has already been booked to appear in the best halls in the Midlands and the North, and has brought big business to the halls which have shown it.

The picture is being put before the country by Sir Charles W. Macara, Bart., ex-president of the English and International Cotton Federations, his aim being to bring home to the public the magnitude and importance of the cotton industry—our greatest exporting industry—as well as to show that the International Cotton Federation and the International Institute of Agriculture have brought the nations of the world into friendly co-operation in the provision of the two main necessaries of life—food and clothing.

The King of Sports.

Mr. Walter West, the well-known producer of Broadwest films, maintains that it is quite possible to produce a thrilling film, and one which will hold any audience, without resorting to the usual form of "thrill-getter." The plot of "A Dead Certainty" (the film version of which is just being completed at the Broadwest studio) contains no deaths, murders, thefts, fires, or accidents. The success of the film depends entirely on the well-worn theme "the course of true love never did run smooth," but Walter West handles it in such a way as to make a fascinating and exciting five reels. Even the bookmaker, who, in racing stories, is usually a bad man, is represented as being an altogether nice person in this production. Poppy Wyndham, Gregory Scott, Cameron Carr, Harry Royston and Mary Masters are the most prominent members of an excellent cast.

TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"CALVARY."

A CLERGYMAN'S TEMPTATION.

Production ..... B.E.F.
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Malvina Longfellow
Length ..... Five Reels

"Calvary" is another British screen success, Miss Malvina Longfellow looking very beautiful in some wonderful dresses. The story is interesting, and the film should be cordially welcomed on its release. David, a young clergyman engaged to Ruth Penryn, capitulates to the fascinations of Lady Pamela, who, having made a loveless marriage, is looking round for a fresh victim. Although David returns to his sweetheart's village, he is followed by the siren, who in her turn is pursued by her husband's Chinese servant. Finally Lady Pam makes her way to David's cottage, where, after being discovered by the man she had taken for better or for worse, she receives her death wound at the hands of the faithful spy.

* * *

"A DAUGHTER OF THE WOOLF."

LOVE LAUGHS AT LOCKSMITHS.

Production ..... Paramount
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Lila Lee
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Renters

"A Daughter of the Woolf" is an attractive Lila Lee production, the youthful star being charmingly natural as Delight Ainsworth, the only daughter of Woolf Ainsworth, smuggler and trapper, who accompanies her father to New York on one of his business excursions. At a smart hotel she meets Robert Draby, a young millionaire, who loses his heart to the unsophisticated little country maid. Draby is forced, through the death of his father, to leave the city suddenly, and Delight returns home thinking him unfaithful. Later, Draby goes in search of the girl he loves, but being mistaken by the smugglers for a revenue officer, he receives a very rough welcome. Sunshine, however, follows storm, and after the death of her father, Delight is grateful indeed for Draby's unceasing love.

* * *

"THE LAST ROSE OF SUMMER."

YOUTH'S TRIUMPH OVER OLD AGE.

Production ..... Samuelson
Type ..... Drama
Stars ... Owen Nares and Minna Grey
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Grangers

"The Last Rose of Summer" is a suitable vehicle for the sympathetic acting of Minna Grey, who is largely responsible for the success of this production. Oliver Selwyn, collector of rare china, desires above all else the missing half of an old Chelsea tea service in his possession. He enlists the aid of Mr. Palliser, a curio dealer, who determines to make money by foisting an imitation set upon the collector. Oliver, however, meets Miss Amy Melville, an old maid who owns the missing half of the service, and, hoping that he may gain his great desire, he becomes engaged to her. Youth makes an appearance in the person of Miss Melville's niece Lotus, who wins Oliver's heart and causes him to break the engagement. Palliser, stealing the genuine china, replaces it with the imitation set, Oliver being suspected of the theft by Lotus and her aunt, but Palliser is forced into a confession.

"THE BRAT."

EX-CHORUS GIRL'S TRIUMPH OVER HER ENEMIES.

Production ..... Metro
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Nazimdna
Length ..... Six Reels
Distributors ..... Metro

"The Brat" shows Nazimdna as a child of the streets, a temperamental atom of great fascination. The story is very interesting, while the photography and settings are quite up to Metro's high standard. Stephen Forrester, the dissolute member of an aristocratic family, insults The Brat, an ex-chorus girl, and in the quarrel which follows the latter is arrested. MacMillan Forrester, a successful author in search of local colour, drops into the night court, and realising that The Brat may help him to get his latest book true to life, pays the fine and takes her home. His mother and Angela, his fiancée, are intensely jealous of MacMillan's growing interest in the newcomer, while Stephen insults her at every turn. Finally, after The Brat's dance at a charity performance has been spoilt by Angela's ingenious brain, she heaps coals of fire upon her tormentors by taking the blame for a theft committed by Stephen. The latter, however, confesses to his guilt, and Angela, now repentant, sets MacMillan free to offer his love to the joyful Brat.

* * *

"A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS."

ROMANTIC SCHOOLGIRL'S DISILLUSIONMENT.

Production ..... Pathé
Type ..... Comedy
Stars..... Creighton Hale and June Caprice
Length ..... Five Reels

Yet another successful addition to Pathé's famous list of Gold Roosters, "A Damsel in Distress," is a comedy of the happiest kind, which will "get over" with any audience, Creighton Hale and June Caprice being capital in the leading parts. Maud, the pretty daughter of John Marsh, financial magnate, having formed a romantic schoolgirl attachment for Gerald Hope, a student, is prevented by her aunt from meeting the man she loves. Pursued by her watchful brother, Maud seeks refuge in a taxi, and thus meets George Bevan, a popular composer. To be near Maud George rents a house close by, and is mistaken for the man she is supposed to love. Various complications follow, Maud eventually meeting Gerald, now an ill-mannered youth. But George is still waiting, and Maud seeks consolation in his arms.

* * *

"OUR GIRLS & THEIR PHYSIQUE."

EDUCATIONAL AND ATTRACTIVE.

Production..Geoffrey H. Malins, O.B.E.
Type ..... Comedy Interest
Star ..... Ena Beaumont
Length ..... Ten Chapters
Distributors ..... Neville Bruce

This is one of the most original and interesting films which has been issued from a British studio. In the nature of a serial, one chapter to be released every week, the five chapters screened deal with the demonstrations by a number of girls of physical exercises, showing the good these do to the daughters of England. The slight story introduces us to the father of five attractive girls, who are rapidly losing their good looks by the indolent manner in which they wander through life. The arrival of an athletic cousin alters the routine of the harassed father's house completely, and also quickly transforms the slackers, gymnastic exercises being the order of the day. Miss Ena Beaumont does excellent work as the drill instructress, and the Beauty Belles quite justify their description.

* * *

"BLEAK HOUSE."

FINE FILM VERSION OF DICKENS' NOVEL.

Production ..... Ideal
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Constance Collier
Length ..... Six Reels

"Bleak House; or, Lady Dedlock's Secret," reflects great credit on Maurice Elvy, its notable producer, Miss Constance Collier, the leading lady, and the other clever members of the cast. The atmosphere of old London has been finely reproduced, and the production altogether is a very interesting and artistic one. In the rôle of Lady Dedlock Miss Collier acts with a restraint and dignity well in keeping with the rôle, while Miss Berta Yellardi is excellent as Esther. Anthony St. John, Norman Page, and E. Vivian Reynolds are other members of the cast who deserve special mention for their distinguished work.

* * *

"THE MIRACLE MAN."

INFLUENCE OF A GOOD MAN WINS OVER THOSE WHO HAD SET OUT TO EXPLOIT HIM.

Production .....Paramount Artcraft
Stars ..Tom Meighan, Betty Compton, Tom Chaney, and Joseph Dowling
Type .....Drama
Length .....7,000ft.
Release .....March, 1921
Distributors .....Famous Lasky

Screened at the Alhambra on Friday afternoon last, this is one of the finest pictures we have seen, production, photography, lighting, and acting all reaching a level of excellence. The story relates how three men and a woman from the underworld insinuate themselves into the life of the "patriarch" at his simple village home, in order to exploit the miracles of healing dispensed by this kindly old man. Their arrangements turn out a perfect success, but the great turn in the drama comes when the Patriarch's influence obliterates the evil in their hearts, the physical and spiritual regeneration of the four adventurers concluding an absorbing story. Tom Meighan gives an engrossing and virile portraiture as Tom Burke, the leading spirit of the gang, and Betty Compton a wonderful visualisation of Rose. Lon Chaney would be difficult to improve on in his characterisation of the Frog, and Joseph Dowling as the Patriarch is admirably suited. The subject is handled with rare discrimination, and some beautiful examples of still photography add to the attractiveness of the picture.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

King's Palace, Wimbledon.

Mrs. A. Hurst, who for some years has been proprietor, and during the war was active manager of the King's Palace, Wimbledon, is now taking a well-earned rest, and is migrating to Brighton. She has appointed Mr. Julian Graham, a showman of wide experience, to take over the management. The hall has lately been handsomely re-decorated, and a comfortable tea-room added, the furniture and decorations of which are in excellent taste.

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(*With a few Thrills*)

"The Merry Madcap"

A FEW OF MANY GOLDEN OPINIONS.

Extract from "The Star," 16th February, 1920.

Miss Elsie Janis, who made such a hit in "Hullo, America!" has turned her attention to the Pictures. Not content merely with playing for them, she has written her own scenario, and "The Merry Madcap," in which she stars, is her first. A fine beginning, too, with plenty of excitement and unlimited action.

Extract from "The Evening News," 16th February, 1920.

Miss Elsie Janis appears for the first time on the screen in a film entitled "The Merry Madcap" (shown by the Anchor Films), a bright little story written by herself, telling of a young girl from a convent who sought to see the world, and showing the adventures which befel the innocent little madcap. She makes a vivacious screen heroine, and shows to advantage her wonderful variations of expression. She was ably supported by Owen Moore.

Extract from "The Referee," 15th February, 1920.

It is a bright little story. . . . Miss Janis plays with dainty charm as Betty, and receives a strong support from Owen Moore as Jim.

Extract from "The Era," 18th February, 1920.

Miss Elsie Janis . . . plays the title role with that charm of manner and keen sense of the humorous side of things which have made her such a prime favourite with London audiences. Miss Elsie Janis was excellently supported by Mr. Owen Moore and Miss Juanita Hansen.

Extract from "The Cinema," 18th February, 1920.

Presented with great care as to scenarios, settings, photography—in fact, everything appertaining to the production itself. Elsie Janis is not a star that needs introduction to many people. Her stage personality is a combination of the unsophisticated and the wicked—a cunning mixture that results in unlimited aspects to her character, many of them amusing, many quaint and many dramatic, but all interesting.

Extract from "The Film Renter," 14th February, 1920.

Miss Janis's attractiveness is enhanced by a spirit of carelessness which is far from artificial. At times it appears as though she is actually present, so vivid and realistic are her expressions. Owen Moore, who plays the part of Jim, is particularly well adapted to that role. "The Merry Madcap" will appeal to kinemagoers in all parts of the country.

Extract from "The Bioscope."

Miss Elsie Janis, having made so great a personal success at the Palace Theatre in "Hullo, America!" cannot fail to attract the public to the picture theatres, and having written her own scenario, it need hardly be said that she is provided with a vehicle well calculated to display her undoubted talents to the best advantage.

Extract from "The Kinematograph Weekly."

. . . Certainly there are some novel and picturesque and amusing stunts in "The Merry Madcap," featuring Elsie Janis . . . and will cause amusement anywhere, and in the case of less practised kinemagoers may arouse that kind of interest which is described as "thrilling." The acting of all the minor characters is extraordinarily good, and there is some strikingly excellent photography . . . In many ways, "The Merry Madcap" is decidedly out of the regular rut.

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FILM ACTORS' NOTES.

Millicent Merle-Tobas.

Miss Millicent Merle-Tobas, a cinema actress who hopes one day to get her chance as a star, first had the idea of playing for the pictures by seeing an advertisement asking for twelve ladies to train for film acting. "Please send photograph," the advertisement stated. "For fun I sent mine in, and was one of the twelve lucky chosen, and an appointment was made," says Miss Merle-Tobas. "However, I was not impressed at the time, and did not avail myself of this opportunity. At a later period I met the late Mr. Weedon Grossmith, who promised, whenever he had an opportunity, to cast me for a suitable part, and he would personally coach me. He suggested, however, film work, saying 'I was the very type they required, and should do well.' The first office I made a call at was the Broadwest Film Company. I saw the genial Mr. Williams, who was very encouraging, and told me to call again and see Mr. Walter West. I did this, and Mr. West kindly entrusted me with the maid's part in 'Burnt Wings,' quite an important part, in which I was told I acquitted myself very well indeed. Considering this was my first appearance on any film, I had every reason to hope. I did one or two small parts for other producers, and then war broke out, and I accepted a post in connection with the Ministry of Food. I did war work for eighteen months, and began film work again with Davidson's, the British Actors, B. and C., the Ideal, &c.

"I have just returned from interviewing a producer. Among other questions I was asked what parts I would like to play. I replied that I was the English Pauline Frederick, but producers had not realised it. I'm afraid I quite frightened him, and left him wondering—so much so that he wrote favourable reports against my name in his book. They all do that, but I hope to be a star some day."

A Fine War Record.

Major Wallace McCutcheon, who plays the rôle of Frederick Vaux in Pearl White's latest Pathé serial, "The Black Secret"—has a war record of which any man may well be proud. Coming to England in 1914, immediately upon the outbreak of the war, he enlisted in the Armoured Car Service of the British Army. In October his command was transferred to France, and he was rated as a mechanic, first class. On December 5 of the same year he was transferred to the Leicestershire Infantry Regiment as a second lieutenant, and in February, 1915, he was made a first lieutenant. In August, 1915, he was made a captain, and in April, 1916, a major. Major McCutcheon was wounded in action three times. At the battle of Neuf Chateau he received a Prussian bayonet in the side. He was wounded by a bullet in the second battle of Arras, and at Bazentine le Petite, the battle of the Somme, he received severe head wounds from bursting shrapnel. He took part in countless gas attacks, but was never gassed.

Ivor Novello.

Mr. Ivor Novello, who has just made a most successful appearance on the screen as Maurice Delarey in Louis Mercanton's film version of Robert Hichens' novel, "The Call of the Blood," intends to devote as much time to screen work as possible. "My entrance into films," said Mr. Novello, "was made quite in the style approved of romance. Prior to his production of 'The Call of the Blood' Mr. Mercanton searched for a long time, unsuccessfully, for the man he wanted to play the part of Maurice Delarey. One day my lucky star caused him to take up my photograph. 'That's the man I want,' he said. 'But that is Ivor Novello, the composer,' replied Mr. Lambert, who was with him. 'I don't care what he is, if he will take the part,' returned Mr. Mercanton. When he wrote offering me the part I was just waiting for an excuse to go to Paris, and I took the first aeroplane over, and arrived in Paris the day Peace was signed." Mr. Novello, who is now twenty-five, was born in Cardiff, and wrote his first musical composition at the age of twelve, and his first published one when fourteen—a little ballad entitled "Spring of the Year." From this he progressed steadily until he composed that world-famous song, "Till the Boys Come Home." He now shares the musical honours of "Who's Hooper?" at the Adelphi, and is to write half the musical score for a pending Palace production.

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CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD BRANCH.

A meeting of the Sheffield and District Branch of the C.E.A. was held in Wiley's Hartshead Branch on Friday, when the president, Mr. W. H. Ravenscroft, occupied the chair.

Letters from Leeds with reference to the transport scheme in existence during the recent railway strike were read, and a decision was arrived at with regard thereto, it being decided that the balance of the money should be returned to Leeds, when certain payments had been made as requested.

Sunday Trade Shows.

It was reported that a letter had been received from the chief constable of the city of Sheffield respecting Sunday trade shows.

The Chairman said that he was of the opinion that the chief constable was not desirous of interfering with the legitimate trade customs, but he felt that their reasonable wishes should be met in the matter, and trade shows should be confined to those connected with the trade. The question of admitting wounded soldiers was raised, and it was felt, although their exclusion might mean a hardship to the men, yet, notwithstanding this, for the benefit of the trade and for friendly relationship with the police, the practice should be discontinued.

Eventually a resolution as follows was unanimously passed:—"That this branch of the C.E.A. is of opinion that it is undesirable to have as visitors at trade shows anyone other than those directly connected with the trade."

It was subsequently decided to appoint a committee, consisting of Messrs. Woollen Bramwell and the secretary, to hear the chief constable.

Mr. Ravencroft's Resignation.

The Chairman, in calling attention to the forthcoming annual meeting of the C.E.A., said he wished them to release him as their delegate, after that meeting, in order to link up that position with an official one. He was also desirous of resigning the presidency of the Sheffield branch. After some discussion it was agreed to accept Mr. Ravenscroft's resignation, and to appoint in his place the vice-president, Mr. W. T. Gent, if the latter consented to accept the position. Mr. E. T. Woollen was elected vice-president, as successor to Mr. Gent.

The Secretary reported that, owing to increased membership, the branch were entitled to have two representatives on the General Council, and Mr. Ravenscroft was appointed as the second delegate.

The Secretary paid a high tribute to the worth and work of Mr. Ravenscroft during the six years he had been the president of the branch, and on his proposition, seconded by Mr. Favell, an appreciation of those services was ordered to be recorded in the minutes.

The question of the secretary's salary was raised, and owing to the increased duties attaching to the office it was unanimously resolved that extra remuneration was essential.

Mr. Ravenscroft expressed a wish that as many members of the Sheffield branch as possible would make the journey to London to be present at the annual meeting of the C.E.A. on March 12.

Permission was granted to Miss Sorly, secretary of "Save the Children Fund," to make a collection in the Sheffield cinemas.

"THE LINCOLN HIGHWAYMAN."

THRILLING STORY OF ROMANCE AND MYSTERY.

Production	William Fox
Type	Romantic Drama
Star	William Russell
Length	4,533ft.
Released	Nov. 29, 1920.

Mystery and thrills in abundance are to be found in the Fox production, "The Lincoln Highwayman," screened at the London Pavilion on Monday, and it would be difficult to find a film that is likely to be more successful. The story concerns a clever bandit, known as the Lincoln Highwayman, who uses a high-powered automobile to hold up motorcar travellers along the new Lincoln highway, that connects the Atlantic with the Pacific Coast of America. One night Vincent Colby, a San Francisco banker, is held up, with his ward, Marian Calvert, and his wife. Jimmy Clunder and Steele are members of the party, and both love Marian. Circumstances arise which cause Marian to suspect that Jimmy is the bandit, and for a time the evidence is strong against him. The surprising climax at the end ensures its success, quite apart from the exceptional merits of photography scenery, and the fine acting of Mr. William Russell, as the suspected Jimmy. Special mention, too, must be made of the dog, who plays such a prominent part in the play.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

Gaumont Athletic Club.

On Saturday last the Gaumont Sports and Athletic Club entertained the Provincial Cinematograph Theatres' Football Team at Boston Manor, when a fast game ended in the victory of the Gaumont team by three goals to two. There were a large number of supporters of both teams present. Immediately after the arrival of the Gaumont captain—Cyril Smith, who, after his adventures at the Leeds Carnival had travelled down specially for the match and arrived on the ground at 3 o'clock—it was decided to make a start, but as the provincial team was one man short the Gaumont club lent them a man, who in true sporting spirit played a very fine game for the P.C. team. Metcalfe, the Gaumont vice-captain and inside right, made two excellent runs in the first half, and finished them off by scoring on each occasion. The other Gaumont goal was scored by Green. Gaumonts, however, failed to take advantage of a penalty kick in the first half. The Gaumont team has been in very good form since the beginning of the season, their record to date standing as follows: Played 19, won 13, lost 5, drawn 1.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Naked Hands, The Fatal Enchantress (Wards), Shaftesbury, 11, March 3.
Father Sergius (Leon Comnen), West End, 11, March 3.
Human Desire (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, March 4.
Spitfire of Seville, Boxing for the Million (Gaumont), Shaftesbury, 11, March 4.
The Little Duchess (New Bio.), Super, 11.30, March 4.
Curse of the Rayburns, Hula Hula Land (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.45, March 4, 11 and 2.45, March 5.
Inn of Shadows, Call of Duty (Leon Comnen), West End, 11, March 5.
Black Gate (Vitagraph), West End, 11, March 5.
Human Desire (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, March 5.
Garden of Resurrection (Stoll), Alhambra, 3, March 5.
Such a Little Pirate (Renters), Shaftesbury, 11.15, March 10.

BIRMINGHAM.

The Argyle Case (Perfection Pictures), Futurist, 11, March 3.
Finger of Justice (Mitchell's), Scala, 11, March 3.
A Norway Lass (West. Imp.), New-street P.H., 11.15, March 5.
Blackmail (L.I.F.T.), Scala, 11, March 4.
The Barton Mystery (Stoll), Futurist, 11, March 5.
In Mizzouri, On the Quiet (F.-Lasky), Scala, 11, March 5.
The Brat (Nazimova) (Jury), Own Theatre, 2.30, March 5.
A Norway Lass, At Grips with the Bolsheviks, Hula-Hula Land (West. Imp.), 144-5, Suffolk-street, 7 p.m., March 7.
The Auction Mart (Phillips), Theatre de Luxe, 7, March 7.
The Spitfire of Seville (Gaumont), Futurist, 11, March 8.

BELFAST.

Making Her His Wife (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, March 3.
Lost Money (Fox), Panopticon, 11, March 4.

BRISTOL.

His Sweetheart (Douglas Mutual), Palace, 11.15, March 3.
Thieves (Fox), Clare-street P.H., 11, March 3.
Her Benny, The Cigarette (Granger), Livermore's Palace, 3, March 7.

CARDIFF.

The Cigarette (Granger), Park Hall, 11, March 5.
Twenty-three and a Half Hours' Leave (F.-Lasky), 16, Priory-street, 11, March 5.
The Beloved Cheater (Fox), Olympia, 2.30, March 6.
The Reckoning Day (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 16, Priory-street, 11 and 2.30, March 4 and 5.
Joy (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30 and 3, March 8.
The Black Secret (Pathé), Pavilion, 11, March 9.

DUBLIN.

Should a Husband Forgive? (Fox), Sackville P.H., 11.30, March 3.
Lady Noggs, Texas Guinan (Butcher), Carlton, 11, March 4.
Heartease (Stoll), 2, Burgh-quay, 3, March 5.
Whom God Hath Joined (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.30, March 9.

GLASGOW.

Twenty-three and a Half Hours' Leave (F.-Lasky), Cranston's, 11, March 3.
London Pride (Jury), Own Theatre, 11, March 3.
The 13th Man (L.I.F.T.), Salon, 11, March 3.
Romance of Happy Valley (Granger), Savoy, 11, March 4.
Deuce Duncan, His Uncle Dudley (West. Imp.), 182, Trongate, 2.30, March 5.
The Love Cheat (Pathé), 80, Millar-street, 11 and 3, March 5.
Calvary (B.E.F.), Picture House, 11, March 5.
Marie, Limited (Argosy), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, March 5

LEEDS.

Fighting Colleen (Vitagraph), Cinema Ex., 10.40, March 3.
Soul in Trust, Janitor's Vengeance (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 2.30, March 5.
Her Benny (Granger), Coliseum, 11, March 5.
Might and the Mite (L.I.F.T.), Cinema Ex., 3.30, March 5.
The Sleeping Lion (Phillips), Cinema Exchange, 2.30, March 9.

LIVERPOOL.

Medicine Man, Wheels and Woes (West. Imp.), City P.H., 11, March 3.
Her Benny (Granger), Cinema Ex., 11.15, March 3.
Joy (Gaumont), Scala, 11, Own Theatre, 2.30, March 3.
Fighting Colleen (Vitagraph), Scala, 11, March 4.
The Right to Lie (Pathé), 34, Paradise-street, 11 and 2.30, March 5.
In Mizzoura, On the Quiet (Famous-Lasky), Scala, 11, March 5.
London Pride (Jury), Scala, 11, March 5.
Super Production (Walturdaw), City P.H., 11, Own Theatre, 3, March 5.
Damsel in Distress (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, March 9.

MANCHESTER.

The Right to Lie (Pathé), 15, Deansgate, 11 and 2.30, March 3.
The Lincolnshire Highwayman (Fox), Oxford-street P.H., 11, March 3.
Super Production (Walturdaw), Cinema Ex., 11, March 3.
The Spitfire of Seville (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, March 3.
Might and the Mite (L.I.F.T.), 15, Deansgate, 11, March 3.
The Medicine Man, Wheels and Woes (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, March 4.
The Right to Lie (Pathé), 15, Deansgate, 11 and 2.30, March 4.
The Medicine Man, Wheels and Woes (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, March 5.
Garden of Resurrection (Stoll), Oxford-street P.H., 11, Own Theatre, 3, March 5.
Long Arm of Mannister (Fuller), Deansgate P.H., 11, March 5.
Fair and Warmer (Jury), Cinema Ex., 2.30, March 5.
Last Rose of Summer (Granger), Peter-street P.H., 11, March 9.
The Reckoning Day, Two Crooks (West. Imp.), Deansgate, 11 and 2.30, March 9.
Spitfire of Seville (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, March 9 and 10.

NEWCASTLE.

Deuce Duncan, His Uncle Dudley (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11, March 3.
The Greatest Thing in Life (High Level), New Pavilion, 11, March 3.
His Daughter Pays (Walkers), New Pav., 11.15, March 4.
The Last Rose of Summer (Granger), Queen's Hall, 11.15, March 4.
The Winchester Woman (Vitagraph), Own Theatre, 11, March 5.
Twenty-three and a Half Hours' Leave (F.-Lasky), Granger P.T., 11, March 5.
The Heart of Rome (L.I.F.T.), Pavilion, 11, March 5.
Joy (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11 and 2, March 8 and 9.
The Amazing Wife (Northland), New Pav., 11, March 9.

NOTTINGHAM.

A Damsel in Distress (Pathé), Scala, 11, March 3.
In Mizzoura, On the Quiet (F.-Lasky), Parliament-street P.H., 11, March 3.
The Argyle Case (Perfection Pictures), Parliament-street P.H., 11, March 5.
Finger of Justice (Mitchell), Parliament-street P.H., 11, March 9.
The Spitfire of Seville (Gaumont), Scala, March 9.

SHEFFIELD.

Wolves of the Night (Fox), Electra Palace, 11, March 3.
Joy (Gaumont), Tivoli, 11, March 3.
A Damsel in Distress (Pathé), Electra Palace, 11, March 5.
In Mizzoura, On the Quiet (F.-Lasky), 126, Norfolk-street, 11, March 5.
The Sleeping Lion (Phillips), Don-street P.P., 11, March 5.
The Medicine Man, A Shanghaied Jonah (West. Imp.), Clayton's Bio., 11, March 9.
Her Benny (Granger), Albert Hall, 11, March 9.

Film Censorship.

In his annual report, the Chief Constable of Northampton refers to cinema films, mentioning that the Watch Committee is the Censor of all films shown in the town. This censorship is dealt with in the police department, and is by no means a light task, 1,652 films having been submitted during the past twelve months. The judging of whether a film is suitable for public exhibition or not is a matter of extreme difficulty. There is a great need for one Departmental Censor or Government Authority to deal with the whole question, and so save the local trouble arising from conflicting decisions. That would be much more satisfactory to all concerned.

Broadwest's Next Release.

The first 1920 release of a Broadwest film through the Walturdaw Company is "In the Gloaming." Violet Hepson, Cameron Carr and Jack Jarman appear in the leading parts, and the story, which is written after the popular old song, deals with Australia. The scenes, showing an Australian drinking saloon and a mining district, are well presented, and the interiors are examples of the care which is taken by the Broadwest Company to give a true representation of the homes of the people with whom the story deals. It was for this film that the whole of the Broadwest company visited the mammoth liner s.s. Mauretania.

A Lancashire group of financiers has acquired four large cinemas in the Birmingham area from the Midlands Amusements Co., viz., the King's Hall, Birmingham; the Scala, Wolverhampton; and the Globe and Crown picture houses, Coventry. It is reported that the purchase price is in the neighbourhood of £150,000.

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen :—

Reference No. .. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Not known	The Garden of Resurrection	Stoll-British	Drama	6000	10	D
Feb. 21 ..	A Damsel in Distress ..	Pathé	Comedy	5000	9¼	D
March 8 ..	The Mystery 13	T.A.	Serial	15000	8¼	C B
March 21..	The Last Rose of Summer ..	Granger-Samuelson	Comedy-Drama	5250	9¼	A B
April 26 ..	The World's Greatest History	—	Interest	15 2R.	10	D
May 17 ..	Bungs and Bunglers ..	Vitagraph-Big V.	—	2000	8½	B
Sept. 9 ..	23½ Hours' Leave	Paramount-Art.	Comedy	4000	9	D
Sept. 13 ..	Such a Good Young Man ..	—	Comedy	4000	9¼	D
Nov. 29 ..	The Lincoln Highwayman ..	Fox	Drama	5000	9	D
Dec. 13 ..	The Fighting Colleen ..	—	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	D
Not known	Might and Mite	L.I.F.T.U.C.I.	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	D
Not known	The Screen Fan	Stunt U.K.	Burlesque	1000	8¼	B
Not known	Shanghai	Granger-Marvels	—	—	9½	D
Not known	Pathé Pictorial	Pathé	Interest	—	8¼	D
Not known	The Brat	Jury's-Nazimova	Drama	6000	9½	D
Not known	The Pride of the North ..	Phillips-Colly	Drama	6000	8¼	D
Not known	The Reckoning Day	W'stn Imp'rt	Drama	5000	8¼	B
Not known	Two Crooks	W'stn Imp'rt	Comedy	2000	8¼	B
Not known	Tuner of Notes .. .	W'stn Imp'rt Sennett	—	1000	8½	B
Not known	The Miracle Man	F.P.L. Tucker	Allegory Drama	7000	10	D
Not known	The Hounding Down of Lady Dedlock (Bleak House, an Episode)	Ideal-British	Drama	6000	9½	D
Not known	The World's Greatest Serial.	Ashley's	Interest	12000	—	—
Not known	The Spitfire of Seville ..	Gaumont-American	Drama	5000	9	D
Not known	Boxing for the Million ..	—	Educat'n'l	1000	8½	D

OPEN MARKET.

June 14 ..	Transatlantic	P.C.C.	—	—	4:0	8¼	D
June 14 ..	A Sweet Pickle	C.C.D.	—	—	950	7½	D
June 14 ..	Girls Will be Girls	T.A.C.	—	—	1050	6¾	B
June 17 ..	Double Trouble	T.A.C.	—	—	850	8½	B
June 17 ..	Many Happy Returns ..	R.C.	—	—	950	6½	B
June 17 ..	Romance by the Pound ..	—	—	—	67.0	8	D
June 17 ..	Screen Magazine						

Certainly **NOT!**

Ashley Prosperity Pictures cannot be beaten!!!

Ashley Exclusives:—5, GT. NEWPORT ST., LONDON, W.C. 2.

Granger Backwards.

Granger's always go forward, but for just once they have taken a backward step. An endeavour has for a long time been made to register a telegraphic address for their Liverpool branch, and many were the difficulties placed in the way. Now, if "Granger" is spelt backwards, the new telegraphic address will be found. "Regnarg, Liverpool," is all that is needed to get into communication with Granger's at 67, Lord-street, Liverpool.

"The Little Duchess."

Mr. F. R. Griffiths, of New-Bio Exclusives, tells us that his next trade show will be held on Thursday, at the Super-Cinema, Charing Cross-road, at 11.30 a.m., when "The Little Duchess," featuring beautiful Carmel Myers, will be screened. This film is in five reels, and is of the comedy-drama type. A second trade show will be held on March 30, at the West End Cinema, of "The Scarlet Shadow," featuring Mae Murray. This is a particularly strong drama, well acted and beautifully photographed. Exhibitors who are not on New-Bio's mailing list are asked to communicate with Mr. Griffiths, as there are several other super-features coming along.

Vitagraph.

William Duncan's new $1,000,000 serial will be the next Vitagraph chapter play to follow the "Invisible Hand," with Antonio Moreno as the hero, which is now current. The Duncan serial, which is as yet without a name, was written by Albert E. Smith, President of Vitagraph, and Cleveland Moffett. Mr. Duncan is directing the fifteen episodes himself, and already three chapters have been completed. Edith Johnson is his leading lady.

Noel Smith, who directs Jimmy Aubrey's Vitagraph comedies, recently, we hear, ran a motor-cycle through a plate-glass window to show how it should be done. When he regained consciousness, he suspended work for two weeks on the comedy he was directing. Now he is back on the job, although still somewhat bandaged.

A number of Anzacs, veterans of the war, who got no further than California on their way home to Australia, will take part in the Australian bush scenes which occur in the prologue of "Captain Swift," Earle Williams' next Vitagraph feature. The prologue is laid in Australia, and on account of the cold weather here, the star will go to California to make them. The story proper has been completed in the East

Gaumont Social Club.

The final heat of 500 up in an interesting little billiards handicap run in connection with the Gaumont Social and Athletic Club was decided last Thursday evening. The finalists were Messrs. Cyril Smith and H. T. Callender. The former owed 40, the latter owed 60, and a hard-fought game ended in Smith running out the winner with a lead of 39 points. The prize for the winner is being given by Mr. Reginald Bromhead, and the club is supplying the prize for the runner-up. Both prizes will be presented at the Gaumont social which is being held next Saturday.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Peggy Shannon is following up her pantomime success in "That Wonderful Mother of Mine." Miss Shannon has made this song very popular in Bristol, where she was principal girl in the Princes Theatre.

Jessie Broughton and Dennis Creedon are conspicuously successful in "Let the Rest of the World Go By." This ballad is from the pen of Ernest R. Ball, composer of "Love Me and the World is Mine," "All the World will be Jealous of Me," and numerous other "World" songs.

Morny Cash's great song, "Why Did My Mother Join the Waacs?" will shortly be issued. It is by Wm. Hargreaves.

Fred Karno's "Isle of Troy" farce was successfully launched at Colchester on Monday night. The incidental music—a feature, by the way—is by R. S. Stoddon. Only two songs (both Feldman's) are included, viz., "I'd Like to be on the Farm," sung by Woolner and Young, and "Oo La La, Wee Wee," sung by Miss Bobbie Dark.

In the Brothers Luck revue, "What Next?" the following songs are well featured:—"Ain't Cha Coming Back, Mary Ann, to Maryland?" by Mabelle Thorne; "That Wonderful Mother of Mine," by Anna Hornby; and "If There Hadn't Been a Garden of Eden" (a duet), by Mabelle Thorne and Tommy Mellvon.

Vera and Wal "make good" in "Till We Meet Again." A sweet soprano voice and a French horn artistically handled are their instruments in the refrain, and the result is charming.

North Bristol Concert Party are successful in "Till We Meet Again," "Who Discovered Dixie?" "Someone Else May Be There When I'm Gone," and "I'm Glad I Can Make You Cry."

Fenton Brothers, banjoists and dancers, work "Till We Meet Again" in their act. It is a sure winner.

Winnie Collier, of the Joy Bells Concert Party, is singing "Have a Smile," "If You're Irish Come into the Parlour," and "Beautiful Ohio," the last-named song being harmonised by the entire party.

Tinker, the boy with the marvellous voice, is scoring heavily at the Empire, Mountain Ash, this week.

At the same house Val Royce is applauded for a good rendering of "Mandy and Me."

Maudie Forde makes a success of "Little Susie Sunshine."

Star Music Co.

Gertie Gitana, who has returned to town, made a big hit at the Holborn Empire on Monday night, when she introduced her new song, "You Made Me Happy for a While," to a London audience for the first time. This great new "Star" number is a worthy successor to "Why Didn't You Tell Me?" as it has been an instantaneous success at all Miss Gitana's engagements. Jen Latona, who is also at the Holborn Empire, is singing "Oliver," another new "Star" song. It is being received with enthusiasm. "I Know Where the Flies Go" is proving its value as a comic hit at the hands of Harry Bedford at the Olympia, Shoreditch, and Fred Curran, at the Empire, Croydon.

That incomparable quartette, the Gresham Singers, is making a special feature of "Down in Virginia" at the Bedford this week. At Collins's, Islington, Hilda Glyder is doing well with "Stop it, John!" and Isa Wise is the recipient of hearty applause for her rendering of "Why Did You Teach Me To Love You?" at the Lewisham Hippodrome. G. H. Elliott is continuing his success with "Where the Blue-eyed Marys Grow" at the Empire, Manchester, this week. Mme. May Walker's famous Jazz Band, which is playing daily at Sherry's ballroom at Brighton, is making a special feature of "Arcady" (valse), "Blue Blazes" (foxtrot), "Con Amore" (saunter), and "Marsinah" (valse).

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

Miss Madeline Loys, who made such a big success last week at the London Coliseum with Horatio Nicholls' "Somewhere in Some Corner of the World," is singing the same number with equal success at the Hippodrome, Portsmouth, this week. This song is also a big success with the Golda Quartette, and this week the audiences at the Hippodrome, Warrington, are not slow to appreciate its delightful rendering by Mme. Margaret Golda. It is also a feature number in the acts of Auber at the Palace, Walthamstow; Percy Honri at the Hippodrome, Lewisham; the Piccadillians at the Empire, Mansfield; the Edgar Hudson Quintette at the Palace, Manchester; and the Hilda Nelson Trio at the Hippodrome, Brighton. These are only a few of the numerous acts who are at present making good with this popular number.

The Vivian Peake Sextette are creating great enthusiasm at the Empire, Croydon, this week, where they are producing quite a Lawrence Wright programme, including the popular "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine," "The Kingdom Within Your Eyes," and "Give Me the Open Road." The Breconia Singers are also making a big feature of "That Old-fashioned Mother of Mine," together with a new ballad from the pens of Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, "I'd Just Paint the Leaf of the Shamrock." The firm's light numbers are also well to the front. At the Hippodrome, Bristol, Miss Connie Browning is meeting with great success with two numbers from the firm's catalogue, "Ev'ry Day You're Away Means a Teardrop" and "Kentucky, Home of Mine." At the Palace, Hull, St. Juste and Higgins are proving very popular with their rendering of this number. Miss Marjorie Fulton, at the Empire, Wood Green, continues her success with "Ev'ry Day You're Away Means a Teardrop." Miss Millie Jillson, at the Empire, Hackney, is still making good with the popular number, "You'll be Some Wonderful Girl."

Herman Darewski Co.

At the Palladium this week Edie Veno is making a wonderful success with "I Know Where the Flies Go on a Cold and Frosty Morning," by Sam Mayo and John P. Harrington, one of the funniest comic songs of the season. The Two Bobs are also singing this fine number at the Empire, Birmingham.

Haig Brothers and Ryan, who are at the Holborn Empire this week, have found a wonderful winner in "He Went in Like a Lion, and Came Out Like a Lamb." Other Darewski hits sung by this clever trio are "When Jo Johanna Plays His Piano" and "Can You Tame Wild Wimmen?"

Eddie Mayo, who made such a hit at the Metropolitan last week with "Nobody Knows and Nobody Seems to Care" and "I Used to Call Her Baby," is at Margate this week, where he is featuring these and other Darewski hits.

M'lita Dolores is making a big success at the Bedford this week with "Merci, Percy," and "We're All Busy in Gay Paree," two fine new songs from the pens of Huntley Trevor and John Neat.

David Cochran, writing from Birmingham, records the success several of his company are making with Darewski numbers. He states that Blanche Mayne has scored a great success with "Nobody Knows and Nobody Seems to Care," and Willie Cave makes a hit with "Can You Tame Wild Wimmen?" "The Jazz Band Cabaret" is also very successful.

H. Clayton has made a great success in "Joy Days" revue with Stanley Gordon's fine baritone song, "Where Deep Seas Roll and Thunder," at the Theatre Royal, Hebburn-on-Tyne.

Parker Charles Music Publishing Co., Ltd.

Hardly a week passes without further proof coming to hand of the return-date pulling power of the firm's songs. Rowe Johns, whose excellent rendering of "King of the Clouds!" and "A Last Request" recently was commented on in these columns, has been engaged again this week by the same manager, with a special request for those excellent baritone items. Wilfred Payne has also been re-booked, his songs being "The Island Delightful," "At Last I Knew," and "'Tis Then Your Spirit Speaks to Mine" (D. Cameron Forrester). The last-named item is specially recommended to concert party vocalists, and is being included in the firm's 1s. pro. parcels, together with the great Dorothy Forster items, "I Just Want You" and "Someone's Singing in My Garden."

Edith Fairhall is achieving success with Edwin Storrer's "Rosalie." At Peckham last week Hetty Withers' outstanding item was "God's Sunshine." Tom Waltham is scoring at Sherrey's, Brighton, with "Reveil d'Amour." Miss Doris Hallerton's Gainsborough orchestra at Barker's is making a special feature of "I Just Want You" and "A Last Request." Victor Leonard, an excellent new tenor, sang A. Scott Shaw's "At Last I Knew" with great success last week.

Dolart and Co.

Three numbers of outstanding merit in ballads are undoubtely "In Your Heart's Keeping," contining an excellent lyric by Edward Lockton, and music of a very melodious character by Ralph Harris. It is in every way a fine number, and vocalists would do well to include it in their repertoires.

"A Year Ago," by Tom Waltham, is being sung with conspicuous success by E. Shedon Harren (the well-known tenor), and a charmning number in waltz time, entitled "Flowers of Love," by Fred Rawson, which, although only just published, is proving a firm favourite.

Messrs. Dolart and Co.'s latest chorus number is "What's the Matter With England? Nothing!" (by Norman Clive), and judging by the way it was received last week at the Holborn Empire, it is an absolute "winner." Pro. copies of the above numbers will be sent for 1s., and artists are advised to communicate with Dolart and Co., 453, West Strand, W.C. 2.

NEW COLISEUM, WHITLEY BAY.

One of the most beautiful and up-to-date theatres in the North of England was opened on Monday evening, the 16th inst., by Alderman Robert Mason, M.P., in the presence of a large audience. The decorative work has been carried out on an elaborate scale. A spacious vestibule, with oak panelled walls and oak folding doors, leads to a sumptuously appointed lounge hall, the floor of which is artistically designed in marble tiles. The theatre has a seating accommodation of 1,700, tip-up chairs, upholstered throughout in tobac velvet. Special Gobelin Axminster carpets are laid, which, together with the silk brocades and draperies, the handsome carving, gilding, and general decorative work, are delightfully effective.

The management of the theatre is in the hands of Mr. Fred Sutcliffe, who for many years occupied a similar post at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Special attention has been given to the orchestra, which is under the baton of Mr. Herbert T. Mansfield. A powerful combination has been obtained, which, together with a fine grand organ, constitutes a special feature.

Until the constructional work of the building is finally completed, cinema entertainments are to be given, after which the residents of Whitley Bay and district will have the opportunity of witnessing some of the best dramatic companies touring.

"THE BETTER 'OLE" REVIVED.

"Old soldiers never die" is proving true of Bairnsfather's hero. Old Bill shows no signs of even fading away, and his continued popularity was evidenced at the Oxford on Monday night by the enthusiasm of the crowded house. The doings of the three modern musketeers kept the house in a very merry mood, and the little touches of pathos were proved to be none the less poignant now that the war is only a memory. Mr. Martin Adeson takes a worthy place in the long line of Old Bills. He is as good in the pathetic and very human side of the famous warrior's nature as in the humorous scenes. Bill is a fine creation excellently acted. The other members of the trio, the amorous Bert, and the delightful Cockney, Alf, are still played with a real feeling of character by Mr. Tom Woottwell and Mr. Harry Roxbury. The bulk of the comedy falls to the trio, but some good support is given by Mr. Richard F. Simons as the sergeant-major, Mr. George Ricketts, the good-natured Colonel, and Mr. Arthur V. Treacher as Captain. Among the fascinating French girls should be mentioned Miss Chriss Birss as Angele; Miss Dorothy Bown, a charming Suzette; Miss Prudence Ayrton, as Victoire; and Miss Lily Duval as Berthe.

The Five Bombays.

The Five Bombays return to town next week to play a six months' London season on the L.T.V. and Stoll's Circuit, thus making a London season of ten months out of the twelve.

Miss Kathleen Keating.

Miss Kathleen Keating has relinquished her part as Columbine at Drury Lane, and will shortly be seen on the halls in a double act.

A new version of the old play, "Maria Martin," is to be staged next week at the Elephant and Castle Theatre.

MOSS EMPIRES, LTD.

INCREASED PROFITS.

Mr. William Houlding, chairman of the company, who presided at the 21st general meeting of shareholders of Moss' Empires, Ltd., held at Edinburgh, on Thursday last, stated that the year had been marked by a considerable increase in receipts and profits over the figures for last year, to an extent that he was not prepared for, but largely due to demobilisation of so many men who had been serving in so many places abroad. After dealing with the question of the suggested share splitting, the chairman went on to say:—

"It is the policy of this board to maintain their properties where they should be, and that is in the front rank of places of entertainment. In my opinion the positions in which those properties are situated are amongst the best in the country, but the fact that they have considerable site values is not sufficient. They must be kept up to date in every detail. It is necessary, therefore, to face the fact that increasing demands will be necessarily made upon the resources of the company in order to maintain their properties in an efficient and attractive condition. In my opinion, more valuable publicity is given to a place of entertainment by its position and decorative attractiveness than by any other form of advertisement."

After paying a warm tribute to the services of Mr. Frank Allen, who resigns his position as managing director on medical advice, but remains a member of the board, and to Mr. R. H. Gillespie, who has been appointed in his place, the chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. R. H. Gillespie seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Frank Allen, in seconding the election of Mr. R. H. Gillespie to the board, said he must first thank the chairman for the kind manner in which he had referred to his (Mr. Allen's) services during the many years he had been so closely associated with this company as its general manager and managing director, and he would like to avail himself of the opportunity by saying how much his labours had been lightened by the help that he had received from the chairman and the other members of the Board. The balance-sheet for 1919 presented at that meeting showed what he considered to be a wonderful record; in fact, the best year's business registered by Moss' Empires since its inception. In 1912 their shares stood at £2 15s. They were quoted a few days ago at £11 2s. 6d., and yesterday at £11 10s. How he wished that his dear friend, Sir Edward Moss, were alive to-day to see it all.

In spite of the shortage of labour, the industrial unrest and strikes, they had succeeded in rebuilding the Cardiff Empire, a splendid edifice and valuable property holding 4,000 people, and in addition carried out re-decorative and renovative schemes at several of their other theatres.

"As most of you know," continued Mr. Allen, "I had the misfortune to be rather seriously indisposed toward the latter end of last year. So much so that my doctor advised me to tell my Board that the time had arrived when, to use his own words, I must 'shut off steam, and go half-speed ahead,' otherwise I would be running a grave risk of breaking down altogether. With the consent of the Board, I acted on his advice and handed in my resignation as managing director, but having done so, I did not realise how difficult it was for me to adapt myself to the 'half-speed limit.' My active association with a business which has had my whole-heartedness, one which I had watched grow up year after year, established a hold upon me which I feel difficult even partly to relax, and I am afraid it will be a long time before I can get used to my 'half-time' routine.

"However, I have complete satisfaction in knowing that in Mr. R. H. Gillespie, my successor, whose services we have secured to fill this important post, the company is appointing one who has been associated with us for many years in another capacity, a man with a good knowledge of our business, and exceptional ability.

"I have every confidence in his success, and anything and everything I can do to help him attain this, rest assured, will be a pleasure at all times for me to do."

"PHARAOH."

AT THE CAMBERWELL PALACE.

"Pharoah," an "Eastern episode of languid love by night on the Nile," was successfully produced at the Camberwell Palace on Monday. It was picturesquely staged and dressed and proved a very amusing mixture of the mystic enchantment of the East and the extreme canniness of the intensely practical North countryman, who succumbs to the spell of Cleopatra's charms. The music, too, is tuneful and melodious, and has an appropriate Eastern symbolism about it. A young officer, stranded in Egypt, adjacent to the Pyramids, emerges from his tent to see what all the commotion, caused by the native welcome to the night, is about. This is songfully and in prose explained to him, and then Cleopatra's shade appears out of the gloom, and, mistaking him for Pharaoh, makes passionate love to him. It is a pretty and amusing act, with some excellent singing and acting. A pleasing feature of the entertainment is the very good singing of "Star of the Eastern Seas," by John Dalgish as Sadi, the Egyptian, and the delightful rendering of "Pharoah" by Daphne Hope, who both acts and sings dramatically, and in excellent voice. Mr. William Burr is capital as the matter-of-fact North Countryman, whose shrewdness melts under the fatal fascination of "the Serpent of old Nile," acting with unforced humour and naturalness; and the Florida Quartette are well in the picture as a kind of Egyptian chorus.

Sanford and Lyons.

Since that famous dancing team, Sanford and Lyons, introduced their clever simultaneous dancing act many years ago, there have been many similar shows, but these boys still hold their own, and are well booked ahead. On Monday next they open again on the Controlling Tour at Southampton, returning to town in two weeks.

Suther.

After a most successful season in the provinces and the suburban halls, Suther is making his re-appearance at the London Coliseum this week, at which house his wonderful show always meets with a hearty reception.

'THE WIDOW AND THE MAID'

Musical Farcical Comedy, Book by W. L. Elton, Music and Lyrics by Sydney L. Hampton, Produced at the Penge Empire Theatre on Monday, March 1.

Mrs. Florence Sefton ..Nellie Valentine
Mary .....Jennie Russell
Horatio Skinem .....Edward Chester
Mr. Harry Dalrymple
J. Edward Fraser
Elsie ..... Ann Kemp
Mr. John Sefton .....Wallace Turner
Miss Gladys Knotin ....Dorothy Louise
Madge ..... Lottie Vere
Fred ..... Dallas H. Keane
Wilkes .....Gilbert Payne

Mr. Gilbert Payne's new musical farcical comedy was produced at Penge on Monday, with every sign of popular favour. There is an intricate plot, which, as the title implies, concerns the antagonism between a widow and a maid for the hand of a man about town. Harry Dalrymple is his name, and he is in love with Gladys Knotin. Under his uncle's will, before he can inherit his fortune of £50,000, he must be married to a widow of twelve years' standing. The lawyer suggests a Scotch wedding to a handy widow, desertion, and then, after a period, Harry can marry Gladys. Of course, all ends satisfactorily in the end, and a merry finale brings the show to a close, although it takes five scenes, including a pretty pier scene, an artistic foyer, and a delightful scene in Madrid, before the complications which arise are disposed of.

There are some good gags in the show. The pillar-box and band interludes are not only new, but distinctly funny. Mr. Gilbert Payne heads the cast, and is very funny throughout. He has a good "Bailiff's" song, and other numbers, and as the success of the show Mr. J. Edward Fraser as Mr. Harry Dalrymple ably sustains the farcical element. He sings well in the duet and semi-operatic numbers. Miss Nellie Valentine as Florence Sefton as the widow makes good use of her opportunities, and Miss Dorothy Louise as the maid sings and acts cleverly. Her song on "Widows" was loudly applauded. One of the outstanding successes of the show was scored by Miss Jennie Russell as Mary, the flapper. She has a keen sense of humour and burlesque, and plenty of vivacity, and sings delightfully of "The Grass Widow." Mr. Edward Chester as the lawyer, Miss Ann Kemp as the waitress, Mr. John Sefton, the husband; Miss Lottie Vere, the barmaid, and Mr. Dallas H. Keane all do well in small parts.

A sextette of pretty lady dancers and an efficient chorus, under the direction of Mr. Sydney L. Hampton, all add to the success of the show.

OLD FULLERIANS' ASSOCIATION.

This Association held their annual Bohemian concert at Watford on Saturday. As usual, a high-class programme was arranged, all the performers being well-known concert artists. The concert was opened by Mr. Arthur Hutchings with a highly finished interpretation of "The Doges' March," by F. Rosse (from the "Merchant of Venice"). This clever pianist also carried out the duties of accompanist. One could not wish to hear a finer rendition of Leoncavello's prologue to "Pagliacci" than that given by Mr. Rupert Pounds. He responded to the hearty applause he received at its close with the popular "Floral Dance." Miss Dorothy Webb charmed everyone with her sympathetic singing of Sullivan's "Orpheus With the Lute," and in response to an encore gave Willoughby's "When the Birds Go North Again." Mr. George Ellis is a humorist of the first water, and the rendering of a character monologue of his own composition, "A Bunch of Old Programmes," drew requests for an encore, to which he responded by telling some humorous stories. Mr. Herbert Cave gave three songs by Kennedy Russell, "As You Pass By," "A Little Prayer for Me," and "As Once of Old," bringing out the excellent qualities of these admirable compositions to the greatest advantage. For an encore he raised his hearers to a high pitch of enthusiasm by his faultless singing of Stephen Allen's "Nirvano." Loud applause greeted the brilliant violin playing of Miss Nanette Evans, her clever performance of Hubay's "Hesre Kati" adding much to the pleasure of the evening. It was unfortunate that Miss Nellie Sallis was unable to appear, but Miss Olive Sturgess, who deputised, possesses a fine soprano voice. Her singing of "Poor Wandering One" from the "Pirates of Penzance" was greatly appreciated. All the artists repeated their first half-successes in the second portion of the programme, and Messrs. H. Freak and C. E. Taylor, who made the arrangements, are to be heartily congratulated on the success of the concert.

GRAND, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.

A well-filled house showed their hearty appreciation of a programme of exceptional excellence presented at this popular South London hall on Monday night. Albert Whelan quickly gained favour with a song entitled "Bye Bye"; he whistled the chorus of this number very tunefully, and followed it with a ditty foreshadowing the possibilities of renewed youth through the much-discussed treatment. His next, "You Can't Understand the Ladies," was much enjoyed, and a mock reading of a sensational novel, accompanied by grotesque stage effects concluded his entertainment. And still the audience wanted more. Sam Mayo's artist song, "It's Just Like Life," amused greatly, and he followed this with the jazz drummer number, in which his musical effects were supplied by a motley collection of household utensils, loaded on a dilapidated perambulator. He closed with a policeman song and was heartily applauded. Miss Katie Hughes sang two soubrette songs, which were well received and finished with an impression of a male American ragtime singer, including a neat dance. Phil Bransby sang two Cockney songs, which were much enjoyed, and Miss Ina Hill delighted all with two numbers excellently rendered. Miss Kate Carney, the famous comedienne, sang three numbers in her own inimitable style, and received a well merited ovation; and Dale and O'Malley cross-talked, to the great enjoyment of the audience. Jack Birchley executes some wonderful contortionist feats, and was heartily applauded. E. D. Nicholls and Co. conclude the admirable programme with a clever sketch, entitled "Saving His Bacon," in which Mr. Nicholls is well supported by a very able company.

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These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1920.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Joy-Bells."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Jack and Evelyn, Wood and Court, George French, Tom Davies Trio, Amac and Assistant, Frank and Victor Aukland, Gealks and Gealks, Tex McLeod.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Box o' Tricks."

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "The Isle of Troy," Dorane and Wood, Four Clovelly Girls, James Stewart, Frank Fay.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie Lloyd, Arthur F. Ward, Yost and Partner, Arthur Ferriss, Mayne and Sheridan, Oswald Bemand, Leslie Stanelli and Edgar.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Day presents "On The Wing."

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Pimple, Harry and Sanders, Keen and Waller, Estelle Mark, Willie James and Doran Sisters, Tom Rees, Harry Herbert.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for
Artists as booked.
Will Artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no Variety Agent has the Sole Bookings of the former Theatre?

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Albert de Courville's "Tip Top."

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Ike and Will Scott, Jack Lane, Joseph Cheetham, Harry Le Vail and Sister, Al D. Young presents The Five Nuts, Rolf Slater.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Harry Day presents "Stunts."

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Mike S. Whallen, Togan and Geneva, Ernest Hastings, Carrie Laurie's Juveniles, May Sherrard, Bert Hughes and Co., Three Sisters O'Hara.
(Matinee Monday, at 2.30.)

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Coram, Roxy La Rocca, John, Harry and Burton Lester, Finlay Dunn, Sparkling Mozelles, Herbert Cave, Four Charltons.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Dorothy Larkin, Cutey Two, Granby and Grant.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Hustle," Lauri Howard, Frank Le Dent, Five Wartons, Daly and Healy.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
George Grossmith and Edward Laurillard presents "Chu Chin Chow."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Houdini, Ted Charter, The McGregors, Sam Hilton, Duncan's Collies, Lily Morris, May Moore Duprez.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Betty Barclay and George Glover, Tucker, Yentoy Bros., Wyn and Ivy, Scot Gibson, Will Walton and Co., Beaucaire and Butlers.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Marie Loftus, Johnson Clark, Rinaldo, Sam Barton, Loader and Laney, The Mandos, Elliott-Savonas.

ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
J. L. Davies and Alfred Zeitlin present "A Midnight Frolic," Ruff and Tumble, Hal Bert, Daimler and Eadie, Francini and Elsie Olloms, Fred Walmsley.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Fred Karno presents "Money to Burn," Dick and Jim Mortimer, Horace Wheatley, Bob Anderson, Pierce and Roslyn.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
G. H. Elliott, Joe O'Gorman, The Jovers, Holson and Bert, Emilie Hayes, The Westwoods, Russell Carr.

EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Gilday and Fox, Fred Rex and Company in "Josser, K.C.", Flying Banvards, Shawlene, Elsa Cowie, Ray Wallace, George D'Albert, La Petite Nina and Sea Lions.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Ella Shields, Nixon Grey, Carr Lynn, Mutt and Jeff, Doyle's Juveniles, Syd Moorhouse, Rich Hayes.
Artists are requested to bring Band Parts for full Orchestra, including Horns and Bassoon.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Grock and Partner, Annie Rooney, Sister Weston, Eric Randolph, Will Gardner, Violet Gwynne, The Gladiators.
(Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Toto."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"My Son Sammy."
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, SALFORD.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
Two Rascals, Barker and Tarling, Four Swifts, Russell and Durbin, Claude Gardner 'Erbert, Victoria Carmen, Dan Harlow.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fire-proofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents. Silence a polite negative.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not served:—
(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager**, and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.
Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.
The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.
The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

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THE HAPPY GO LUCKY GIRLS.
In an Act full of "Pep."
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FIFTEEN MINUTES OF VERSATILE ARTISTRY
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THE MERRY SCOT.
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ERNEST ROMA
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Look out for news of my new Comedy Sketch, which will set the world laughing.

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THE GREATEST SINGING COMEDIAN, AND FIRST.
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STILL ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL "SAILOR" SONG, "CROWN AN' ANCHOR."
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The laughing success and catch phrase of every Town—**"THE BODY'S UPSTAIRS."**
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The Famous Musical Diploma Comedienne and the Dapper Little Fellow. A delightful Combination of Comedy and Musical Genius (Vide Stoll).
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HERE IS ONE OF MY LATEST PROPS OF WHICH I GIVE A DETAILED DESCRIPTION TO SAVE YOU A LITTLE TROUBLE IN CASE YOU CARE TO PIRATE IT.

H. HEMSLEY.
FIRSTLY, TAKE A COMEDY HAT, AND CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE.
SECONDLY, FIX ANGLE WHERE INDICATED.
THE EFFECT: QUITE A LAUGH, I ASSURE YOU.
RAY KAY

NOW DARE USE IT!!

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PLAYING LEAD IN "HULLO, AMERICA."
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HAYMAN & LOWE
HUMOROUSLY HARMONIOUS.
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Will shortly be seen in a New and Novel Music Hall Production

BIG SUCCESS of "RIDE A COCK HORSE," by Fred Austin
SANDY POWELL
This, ARDWICK EMPIRE (4th Visit). Next, HIPPO., WIGAN

BILLY D' HAVEN
"Horace" of NONI and Horace.
This, LYRIC, LIVERPOOL. Next, HIPPO., ROCHDALE
Monks! Attention! Why no reports this week???

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H.M. The Shah of Persia laughed at us until tears came to his eyes at the H., Manchester.
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Working without a Moustache—just couldn't deceive the wife any longer
Agent, George Barclay

PURCELLA BOYS.

FRANK—RAY

"WHIRLIGIG"
PALACE T., SHAFTESBURY AV.

One of the Gang who saw us doing the Cat Dance, said we ought to be a couple of Dogs with Spots on—it would be more natural

RENE RALPH

This Week, VICTORIA PALACE
Re-engaged by Messrs. Wylie & Tate, for Pantomime Season 1920-21

DE ALMA

MONARCH OF THE BANJO
This Week, ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD
VACANT March 8, 15, August 13, Sept. 6, 13. All Coms., GEO. BARCLAY.

EDIE VENO

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"BABES IN THE WOOD,"

(Pimple as one of the Babes).

This is the first time that
PIMPLE HAS EVER APPEARED IN PANTO.
He broke records with
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Now What Will He Do?
Guaranteed a First-class Show. Gorgeously Dressed & Mounted.

LEW LAKE, or *Sole Buss. Man.*—E. W. HORDER, Theatre Royal, MACCLESFIELD.

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THE BURLESQUE COMEDIAN
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"Where do Files go in the Winter Time?"
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VAN ALLEN

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"Oh! Lawrence"
ARTHUR & LAWRENCE
"Tomorrow will be Friday"
By Fred Patterson

This, PALLADIUM, SOUTHPORT. Next, GRAND, HANLEY
Agent, WALTER BENTLEY.

PETER META
DONALD and CARSON

"THE STABLE BOY." "Doing Very Well, Thank You."
ON TOUR
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Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MARCH 8, 1920.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Godfrey Tearle and Co., Ada Reeve, "The Odds," Nathano Bros., Tom Clare, Nathano, Two McKays, Frank Whitman, Ethel Toms, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Gresham Singers, Fisher and Lea, George Jackley, Jack Kellino, Mountfords, Daisy Griff, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Poluski Bros., Renee and Godfrey, Dene Dunlop, Stewart Morton, Foster and Ninon, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Osborne and Perryer, Van Dock, De Guchi Troupe, Harry Stiles, Sinclairs Diamonds, Edgar Curtis, Bergonzi, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Yamayama Troupe, Anna Dorothy, Dorothy Belton, Vera Caine, Dan Rolyat, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2.30 p.m. for:—
Fox and Ross, Delvaine's Marionettes, Decars and Tomato, Millie Jillson, Scott Argyll, Jean Andrews.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Will Gardner, Hayman and Lowe, Alice Craven, Tambo and Tambo, Dollis and Billie, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
O'Gorman Bros., Great and Good, Cruikshank, W. P. Wentley, Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Company as booked.

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"Medorah."

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.
NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—
FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.
14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor, (Harp and Organ if required).
STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.
ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.
COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.
ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.
BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, March 8, 1920.

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
C. B. Cochran's Production "Afgar."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production "The Better 'Ole."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Olga Morselli. Ellis Drake and Co.
The Gravettas. Terry's Juveniles.
Tommy Davis. Lowe and Loman.
Carlton Trio. The Martinis.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
Okito. Four Royal Scots. O'Brien and Lady.
Foster Kershaw. Chas. Cardow.
Maud Hughes. Taylor and Summers.
Tubby Stevens.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
"Cash on Delivery." Lily Eyton.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
"The Lady of Ostend."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Foreman and Fannan. Niblo and Doris.
Four Its. Hart and O'Brien. Yorke Stuart.
Countess Rubadi. Enardo Bros.
Dan Bros. and Sherry.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
"Lads of the Village."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
"Seasoned to Taste." Wal Langtry.
Wilfred Burnand. Loupe and Ladies.
Ethel Castaldini. Sadie Morris.
Edis and Forbes. Auber. Ferguson and Mack

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Gilbert Payne and Co. in "The Widow and the Maid."
Kitchen Comedy Four. McLeod and Bernard.
Fred Keeton. Mamie Holland.
Lee and Howell. Bronte Four.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Ten Loonies. Wal Langtry.
Walton and Lester. Doria's Dogs.
Lloyd Morgan. The Hadens. The Meymotts
Hinsle and Partner. Fred Keeton.

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists, without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall, three weeks prior to the date of opening.

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WHERE DO FLIES GO IN THE WINTER TIME?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY LOVING SOMEBODY ELSE?
I WANT A DOLL.
CHONG.

I'VE GOT MY CAPTAIN

WORKING FOR ME NOW

Sung by TUCKER.

I USED TO CALL HER BABY.
OH! HOW SHE CAN SING.
MENDING A HEART.
INDIANOLA.

NOBODY KNOWS (AND NOBODY SEEMS TO CARE)

Sung by DAINTY DORIS.

THE ROSE OF NO MAN'S LAND.
THE SHIVERIN' SLIDE.
MY BABY'S ARMS.
GOLDEN GATES.

I KNOW WHERE THE FLIES GO

(ON A COLD AND FROSTY MORNING)

Sung by MISS EDIE VENO & THE TWO BOBS.

I'M A VERY, VERY DISAPPOINTED MAN.
HE WENT IN LIKE A LION.
CAROLINA SUNSHINE.
PATCHES.

IT SEEMS A LONG TIME AGO

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